

SUPERMAN

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Post- **CRISIS**
ON INFINITE EARTHS

Post- **CRISIS**

The Pocket Universe

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Volume
14

14



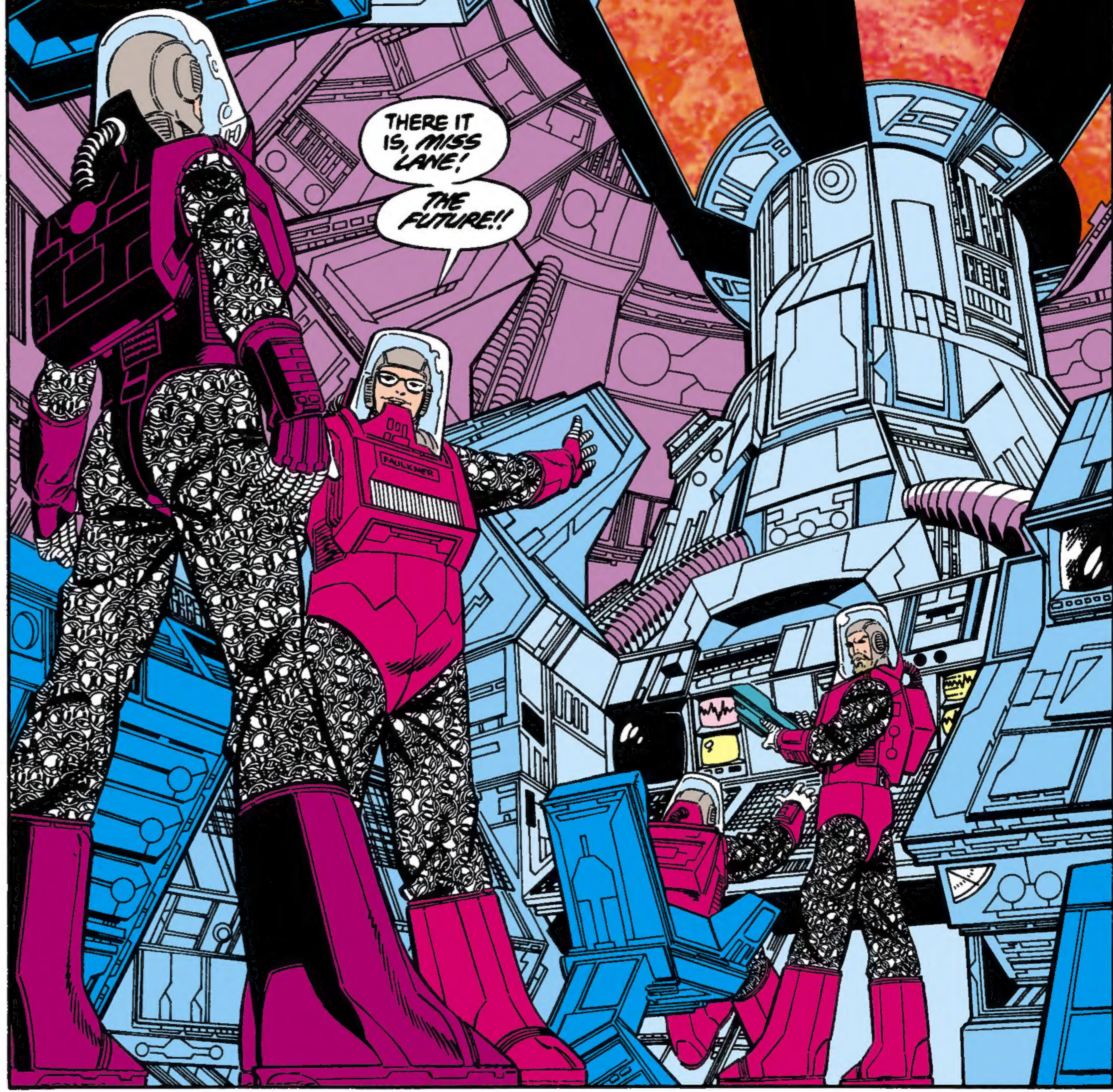
SUPERMAN

RAMPAGE!

Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

G-3136

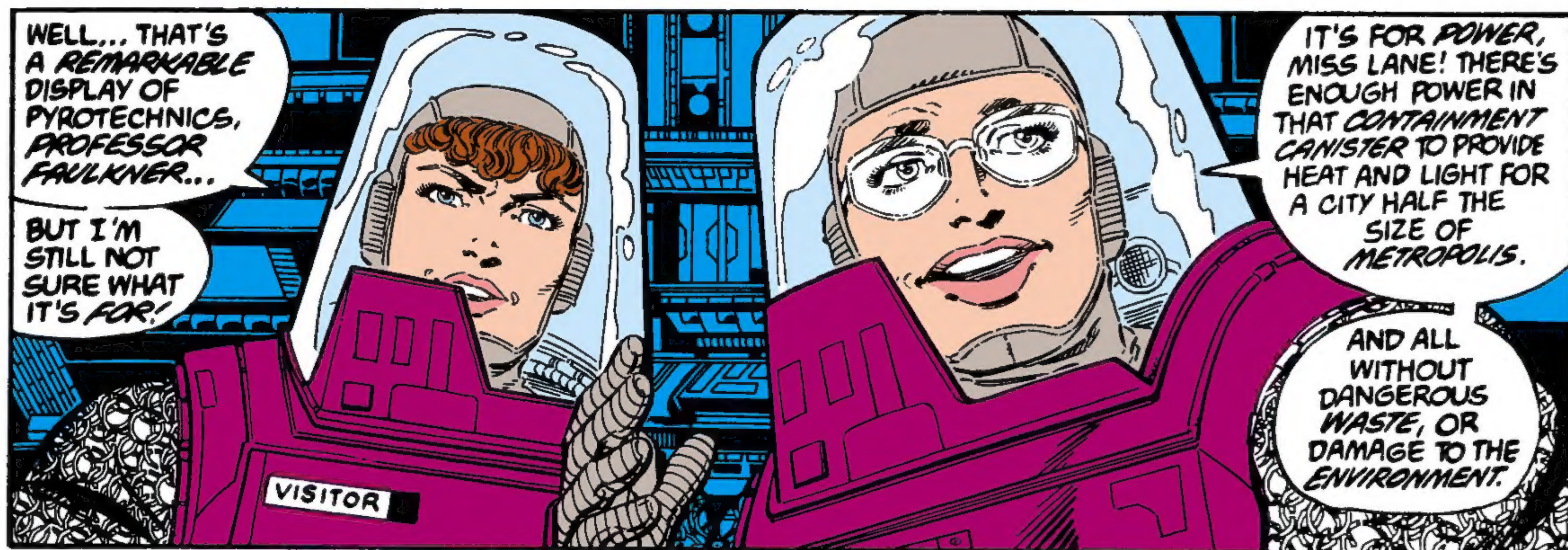
John Byrne *Karl Kesel*
words & pictures inking
Tom Ziuko *John Costanza*
coloring lettering
Michael Carlin & Andrew Helfer
co-editors



THERE IT
IS, MISS
LANE!

THE
FUTURE!!

PAULKNER

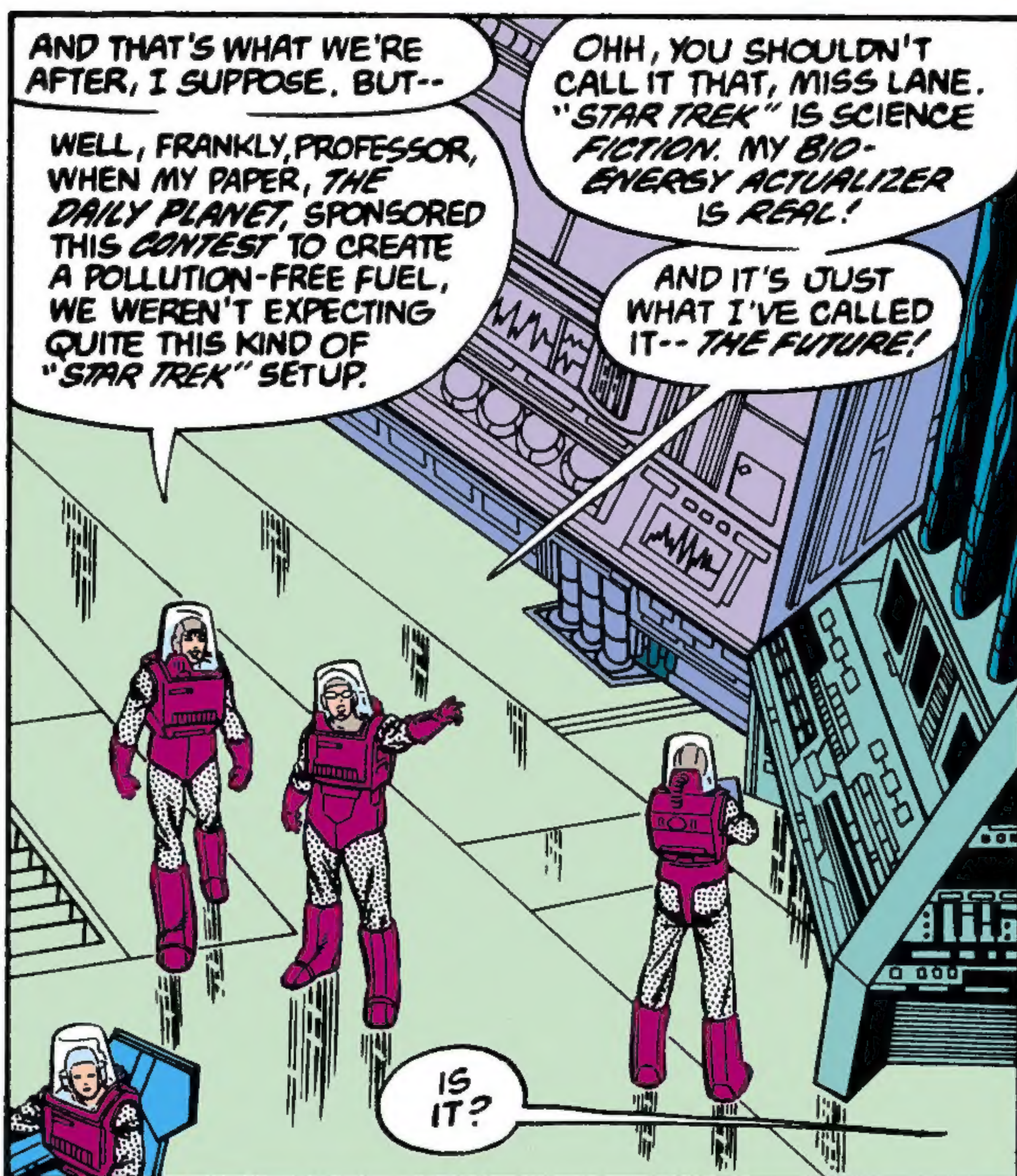


WELL... THAT'S A REMARKABLE DISPLAY OF PYROTECHNICS, PROFESSOR FAULKNER...

BUT I'M STILL NOT SURE WHAT IT'S FOR!

IT'S FOR POWER, MISS LANE! THERE'S ENOUGH POWER IN THAT CONTAINMENT CANISTER TO PROVIDE HEAT AND LIGHT FOR A CITY HALF THE SIZE OF METROPOLIS.

AND ALL WITHOUT DANGEROUS WASTE, OR DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT.



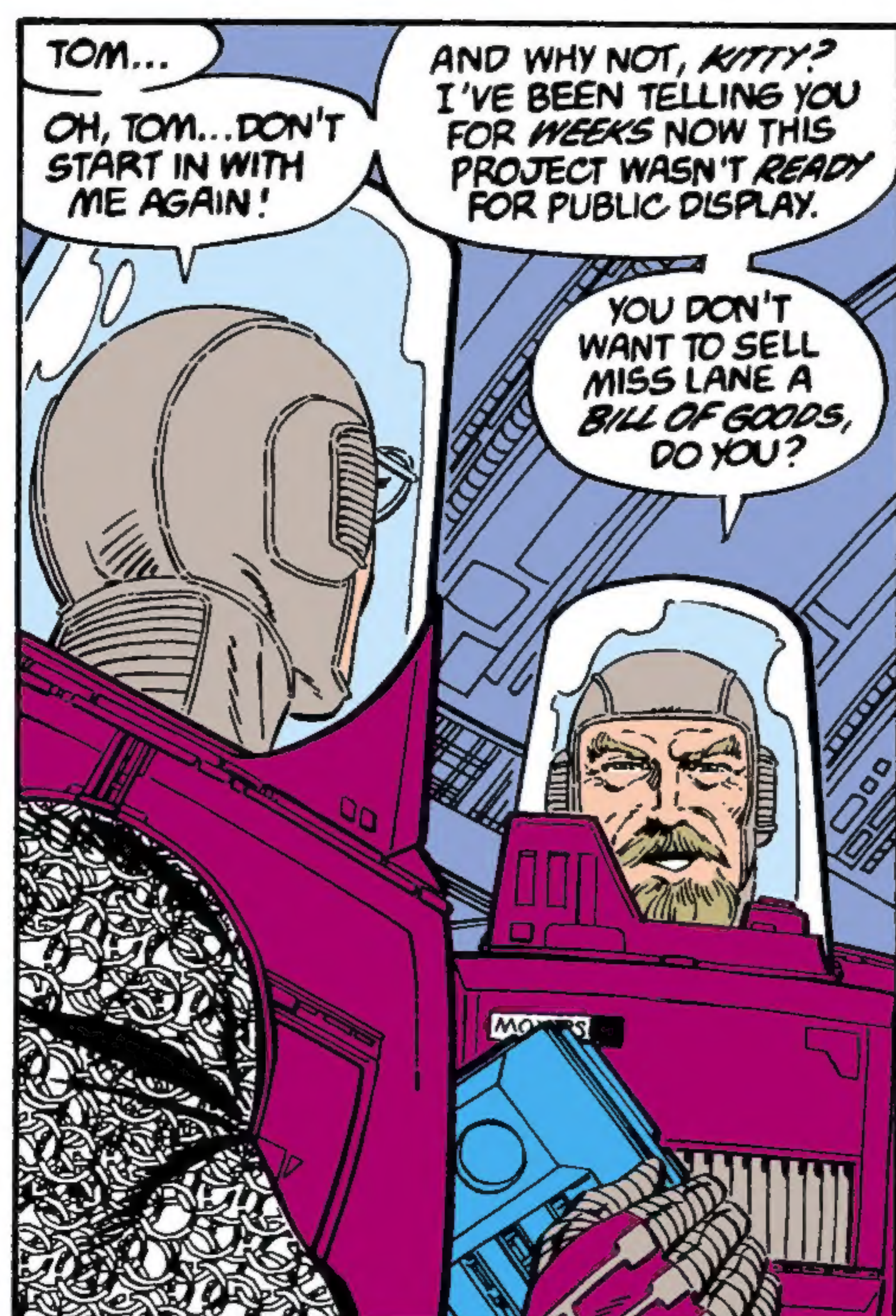
AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE AFTER, I SUPPOSE. BUT--

WELL, FRANKLY, PROFESSOR, WHEN MY PAPER, *THE DAILY PLANET*, SPONSORED THIS CONTEST TO CREATE A POLLUTION-FREE FUEL, WE WEREN'T EXPECTING QUITE THIS KIND OF "STAR TREK" SETUP.

OH, YOU SHOULDN'T CALL IT THAT, MISS LANE. "STAR TREK" IS SCIENCE FICTION. MY BIO-ENERGY ACTUALIZER IS REAL!

AND IT'S JUST WHAT I'VE CALLED IT-- THE FUTURE!

IS IT?

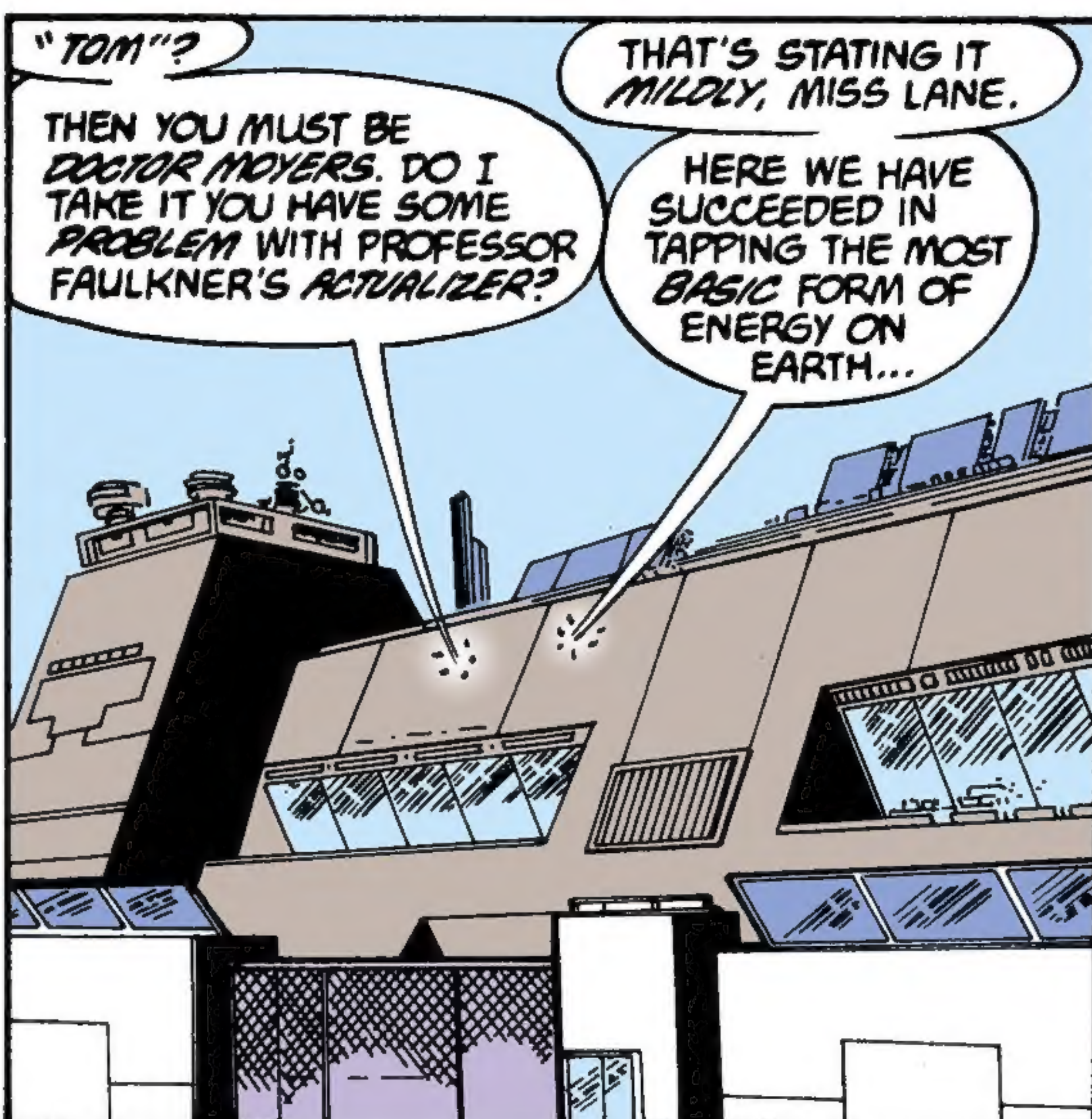


TOM...

OH, TOM... DON'T START IN WITH ME AGAIN!

AND WHY NOT, KITTY? I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU FOR WEEKS NOW THIS PROJECT WASN'T READY FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY.

YOU DON'T WANT TO SELL MISS LANE A BILL OF GOODS, DO YOU?

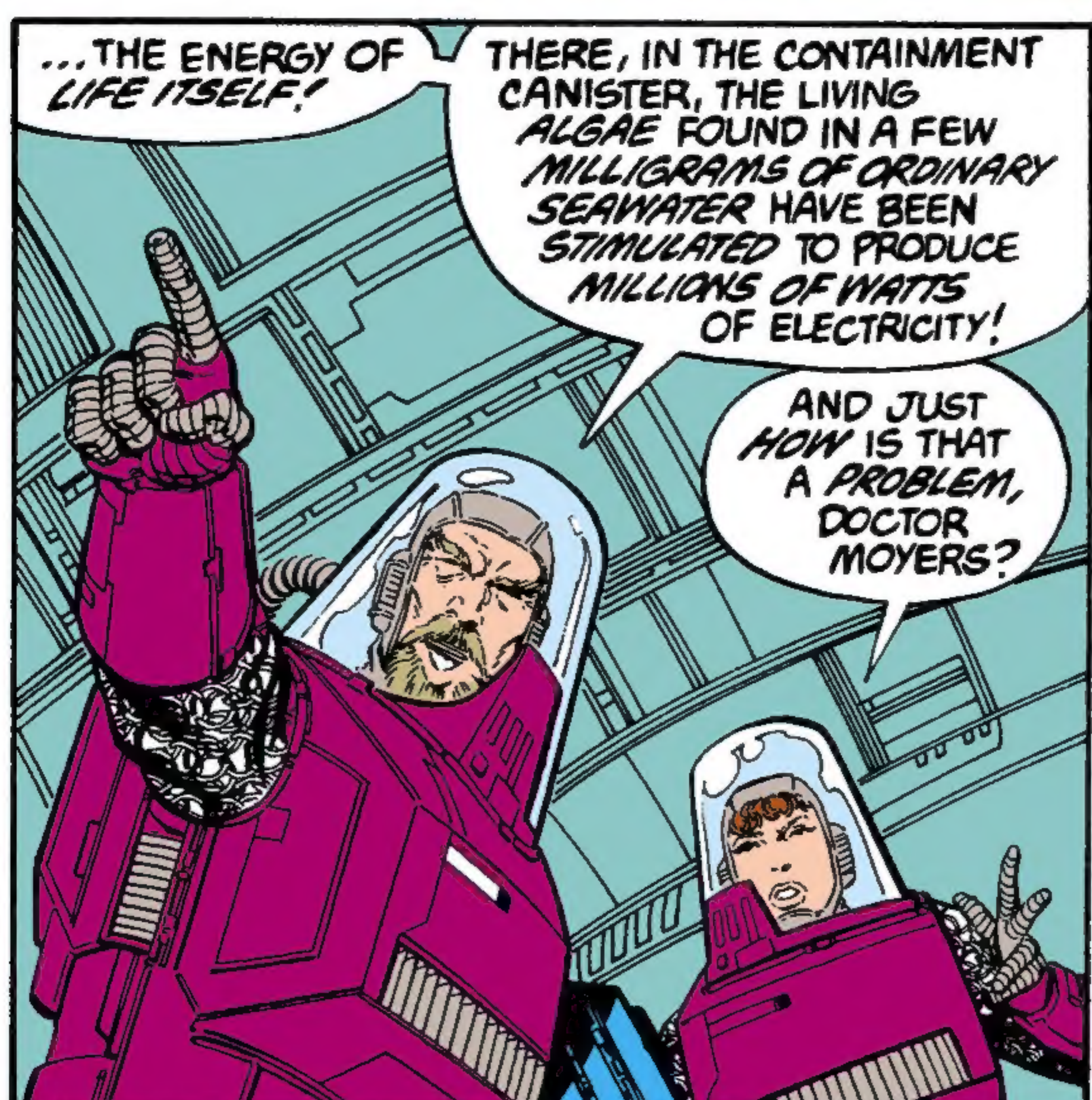


"TOM"?

THEN YOU MUST BE DOCTOR MOYERS. DO I TAKE IT YOU HAVE SOME PROBLEM WITH PROFESSOR FAULKNER'S ACTUALIZER?

THAT'S STATING IT MILDLY, MISS LANE.

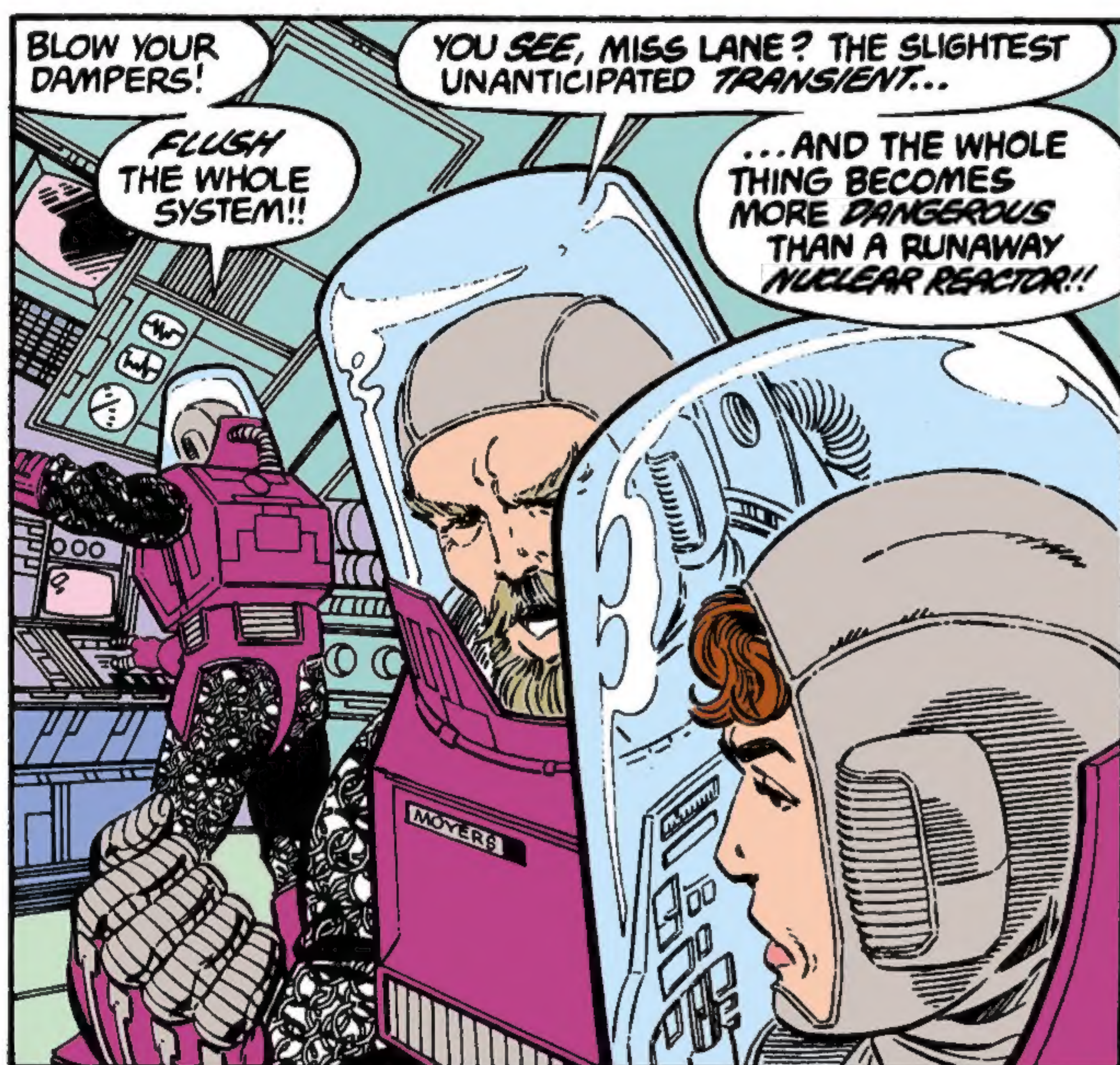
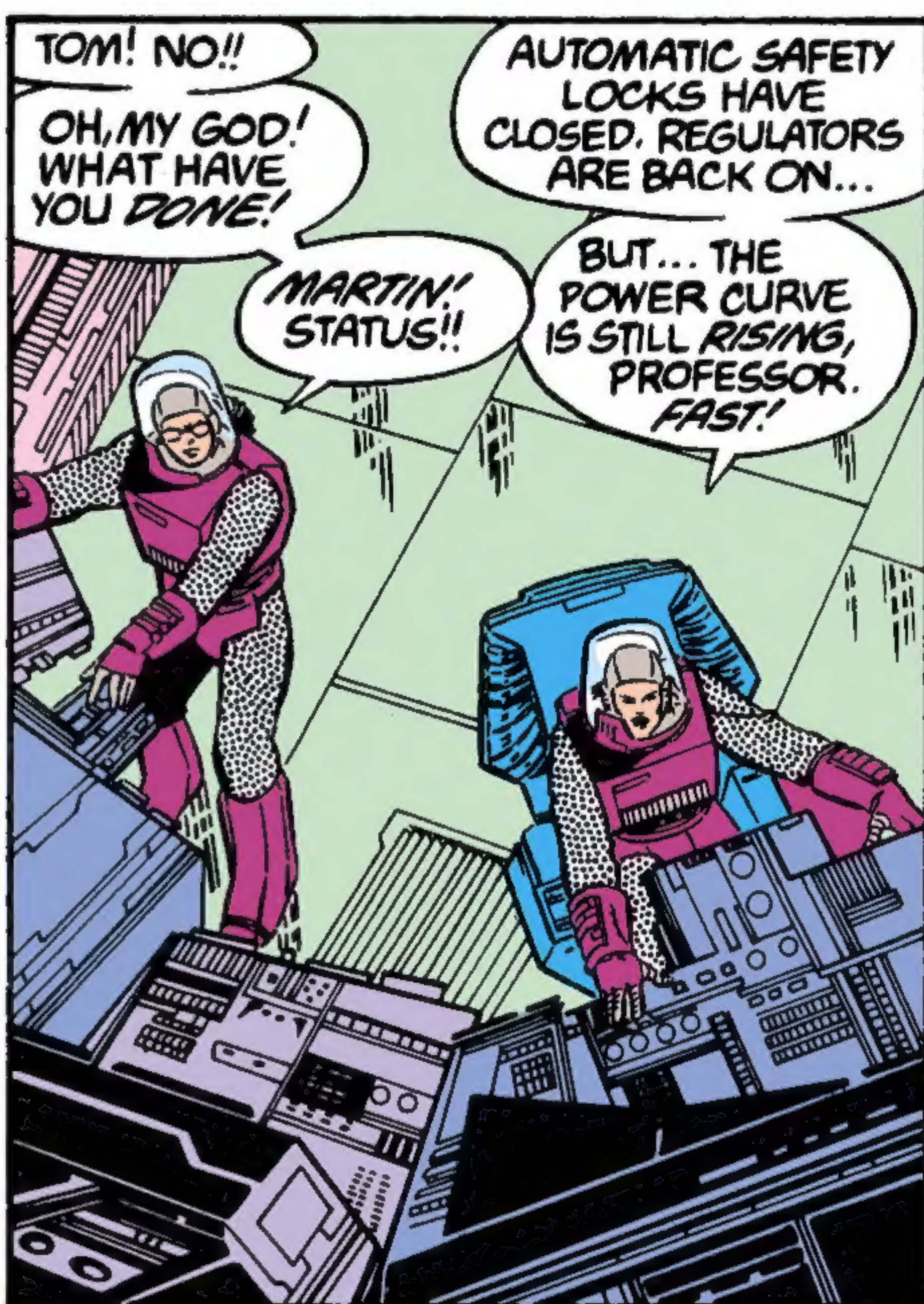
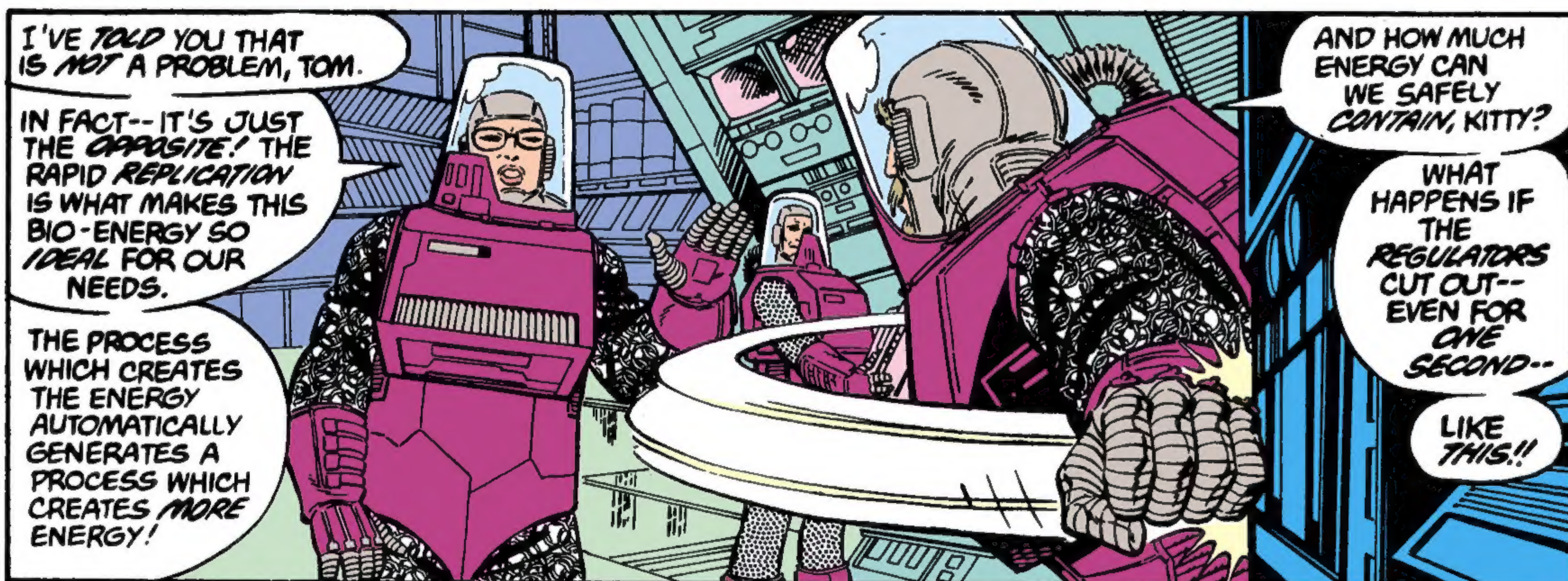
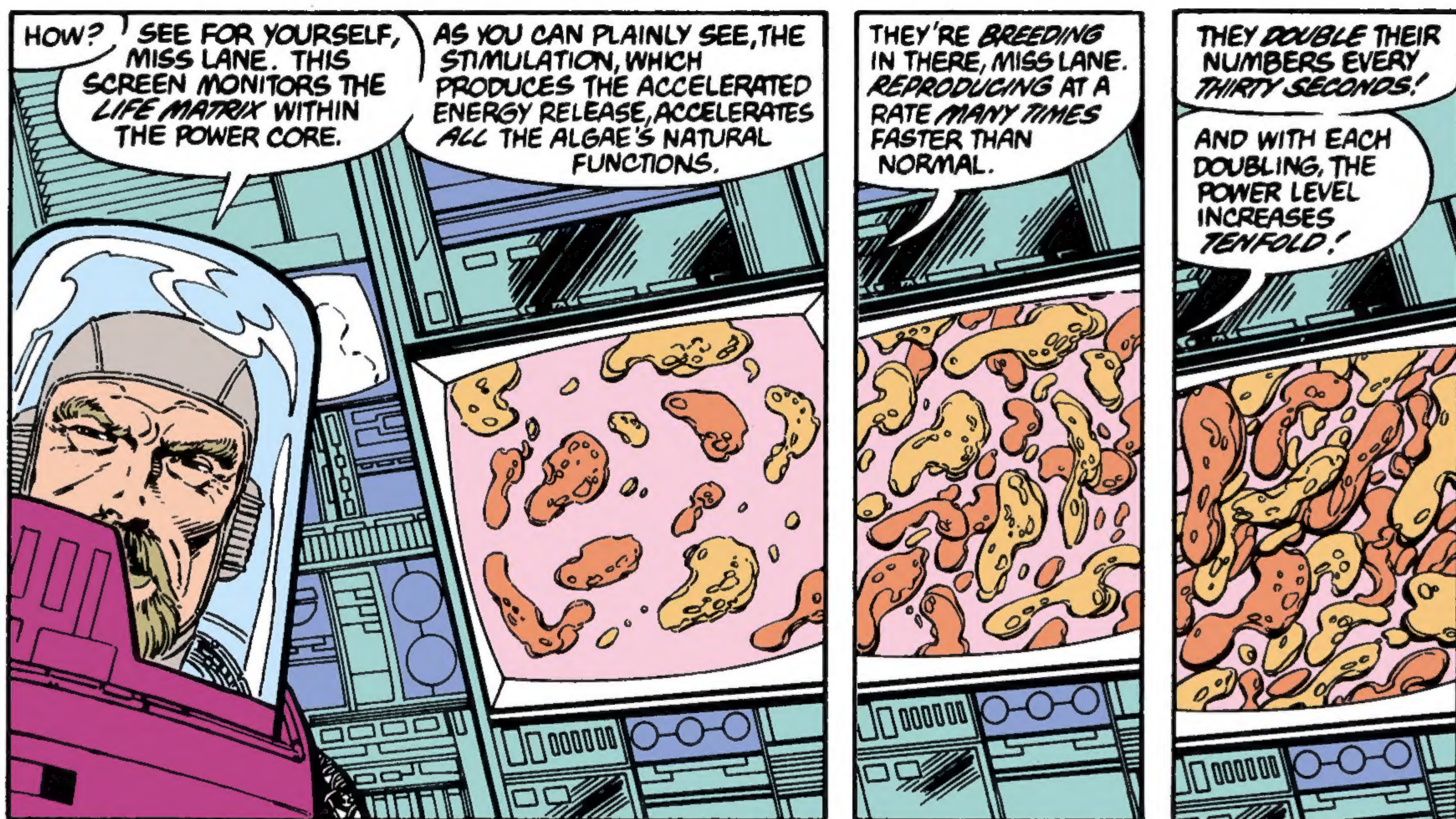
HERE WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN TAPPING THE MOST BASIC FORM OF ENERGY ON EARTH...

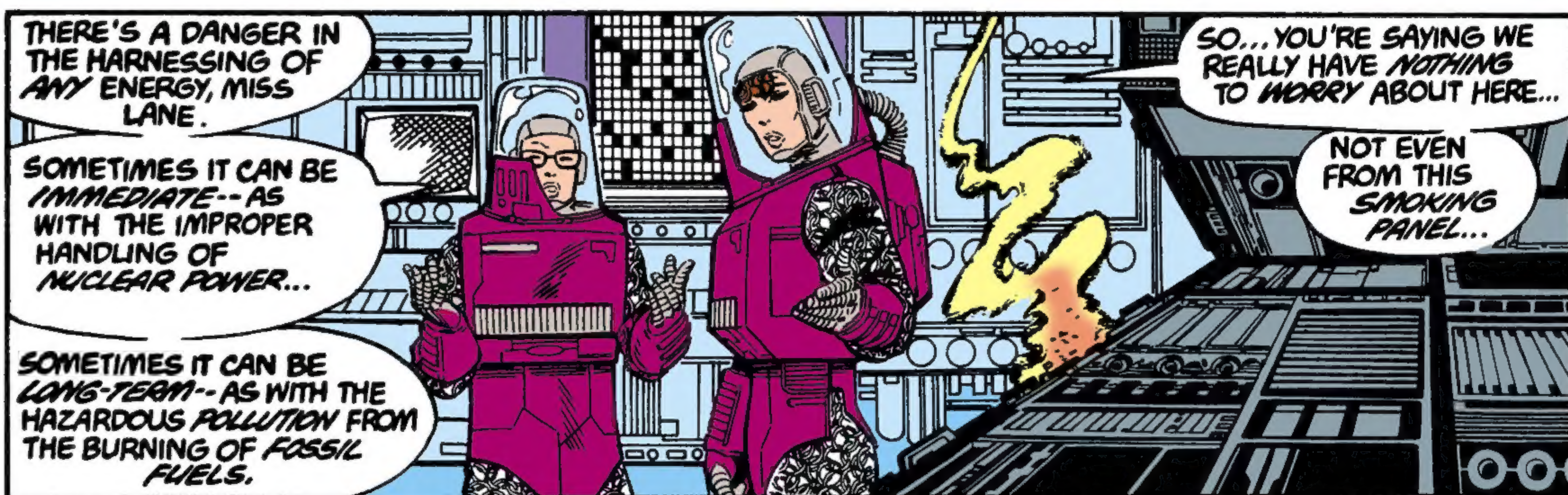
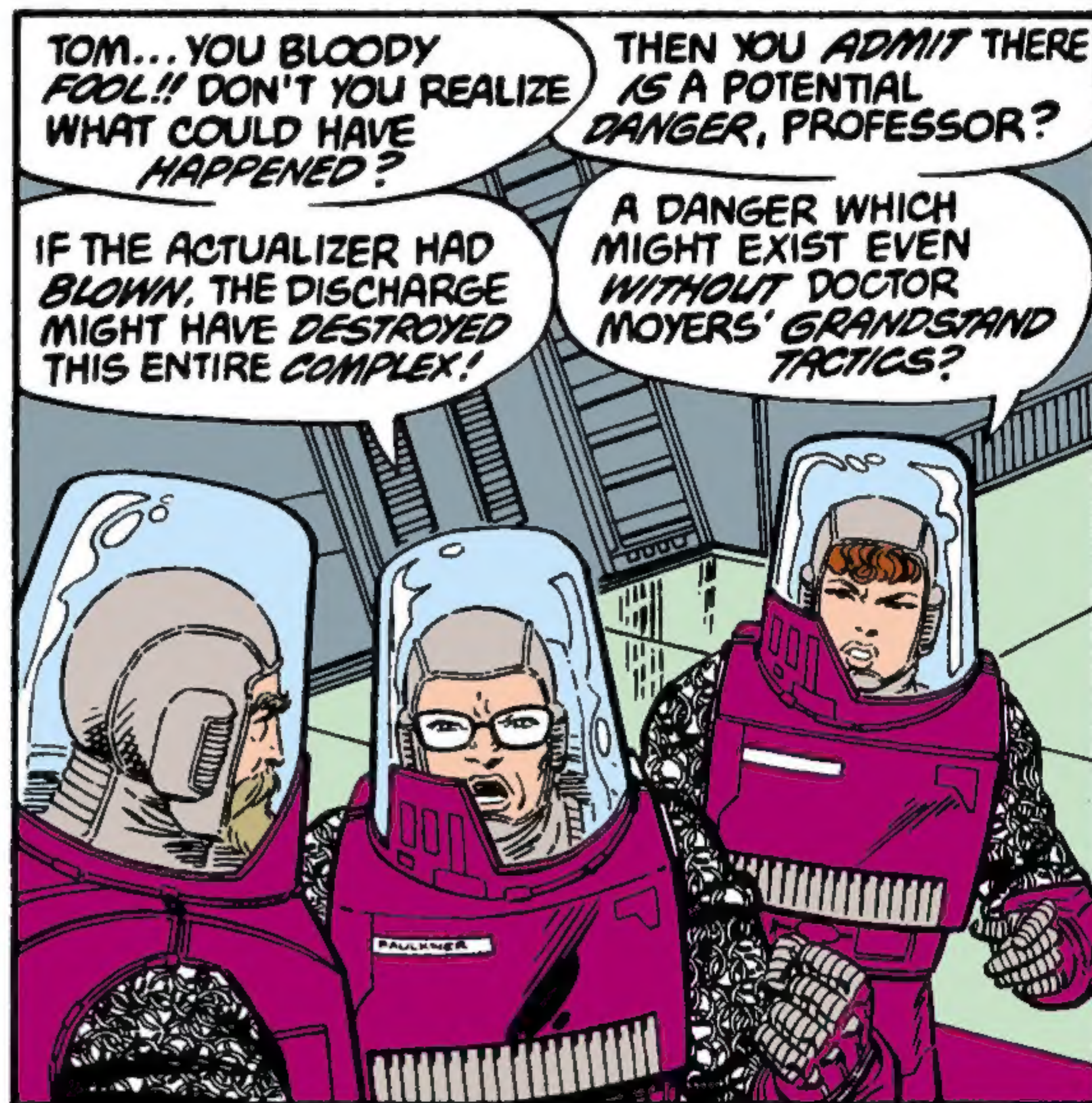
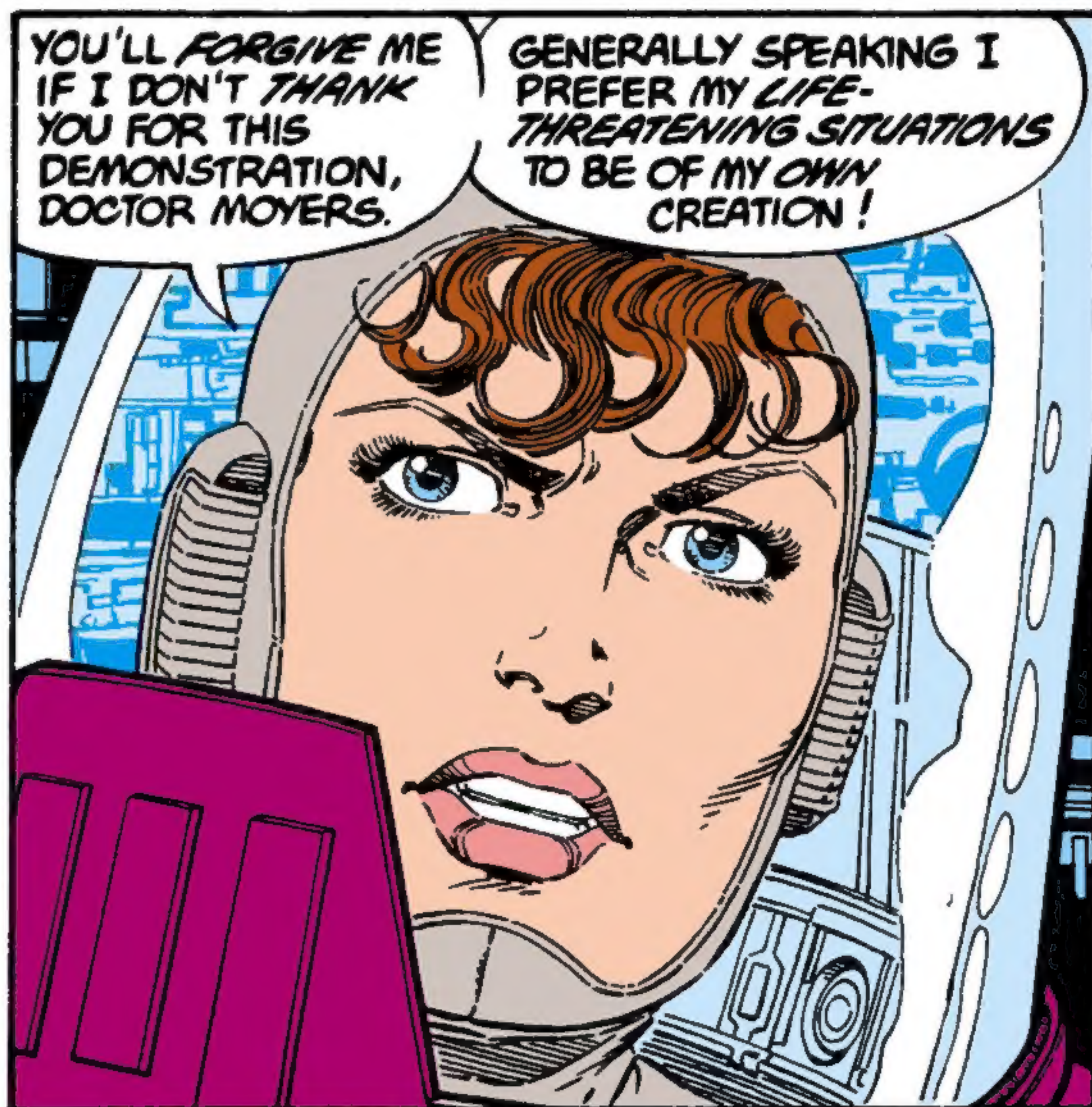


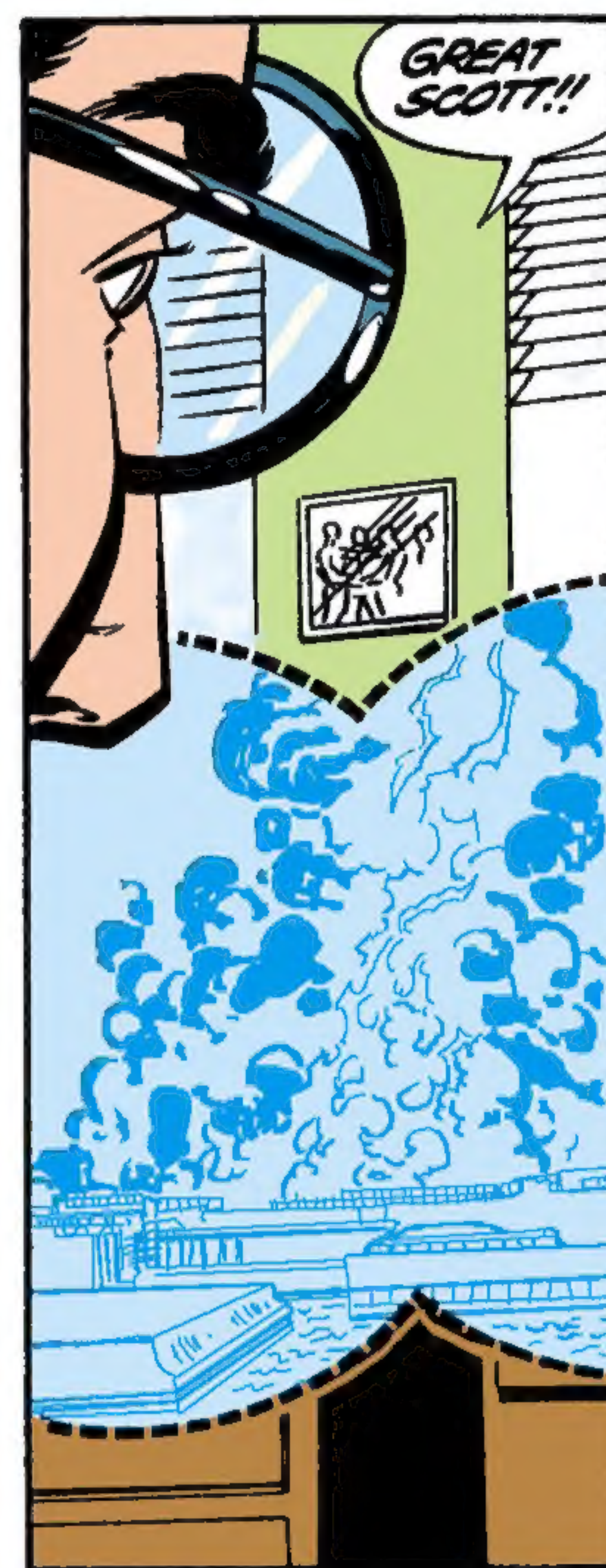
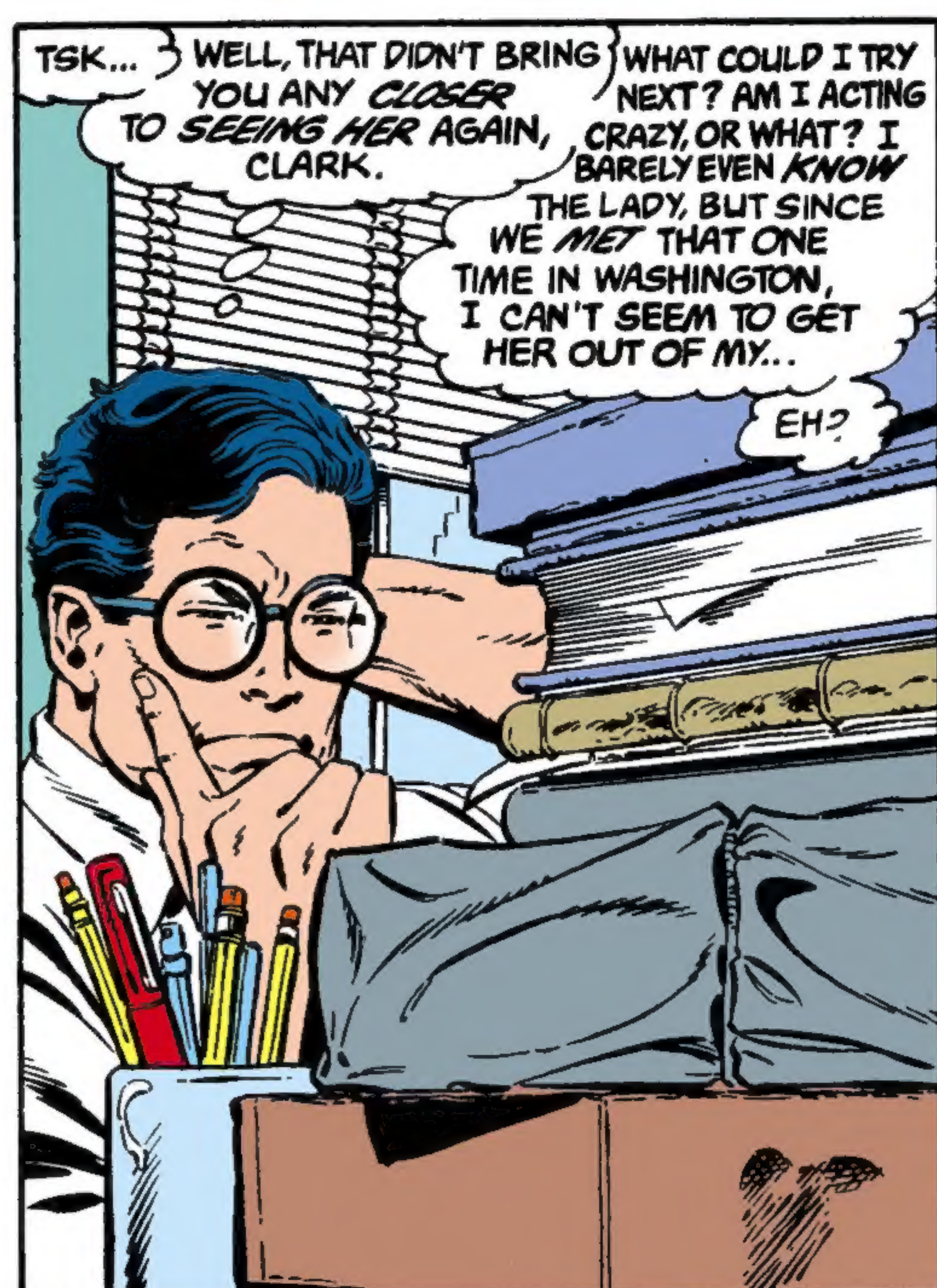
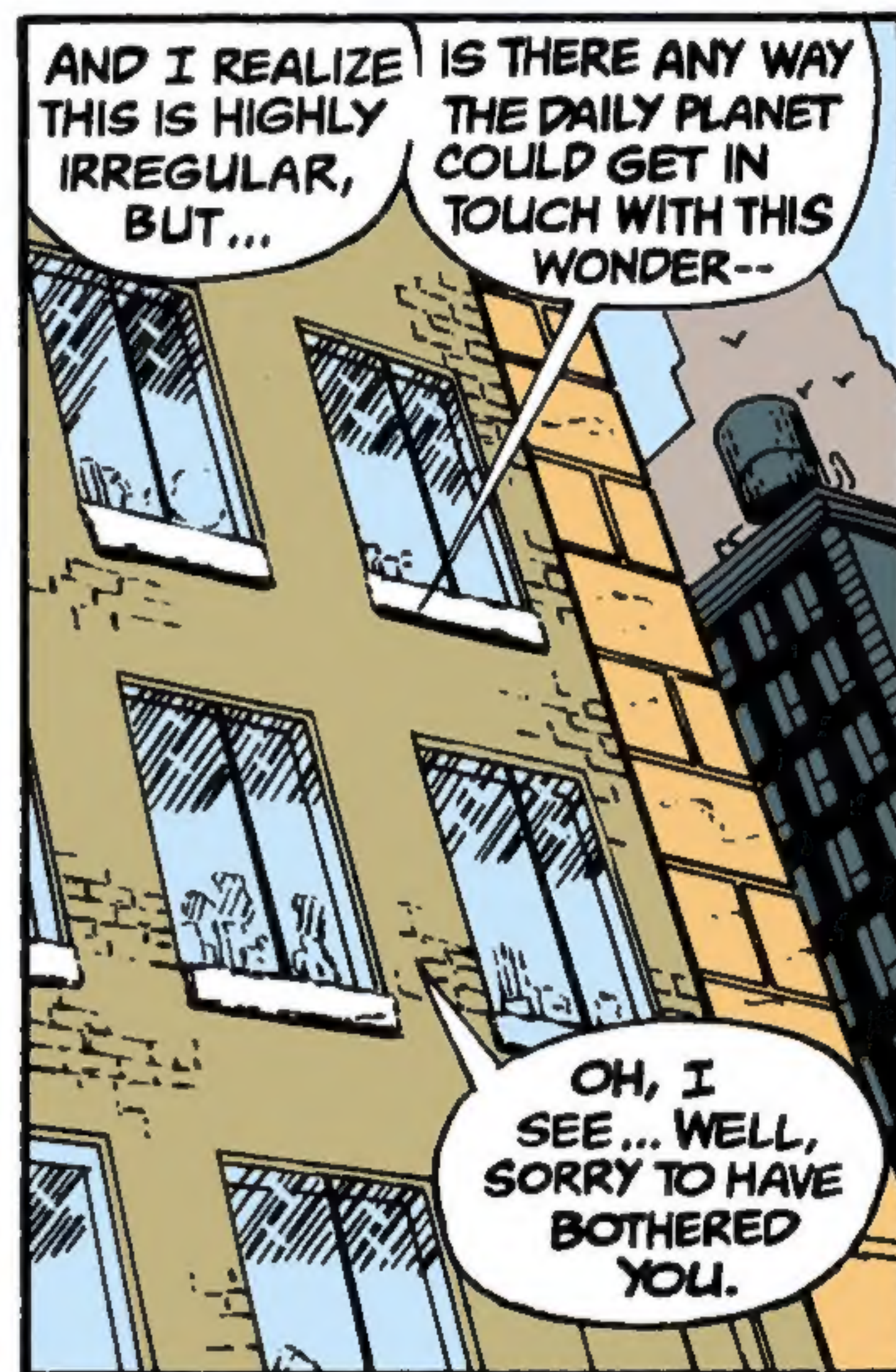
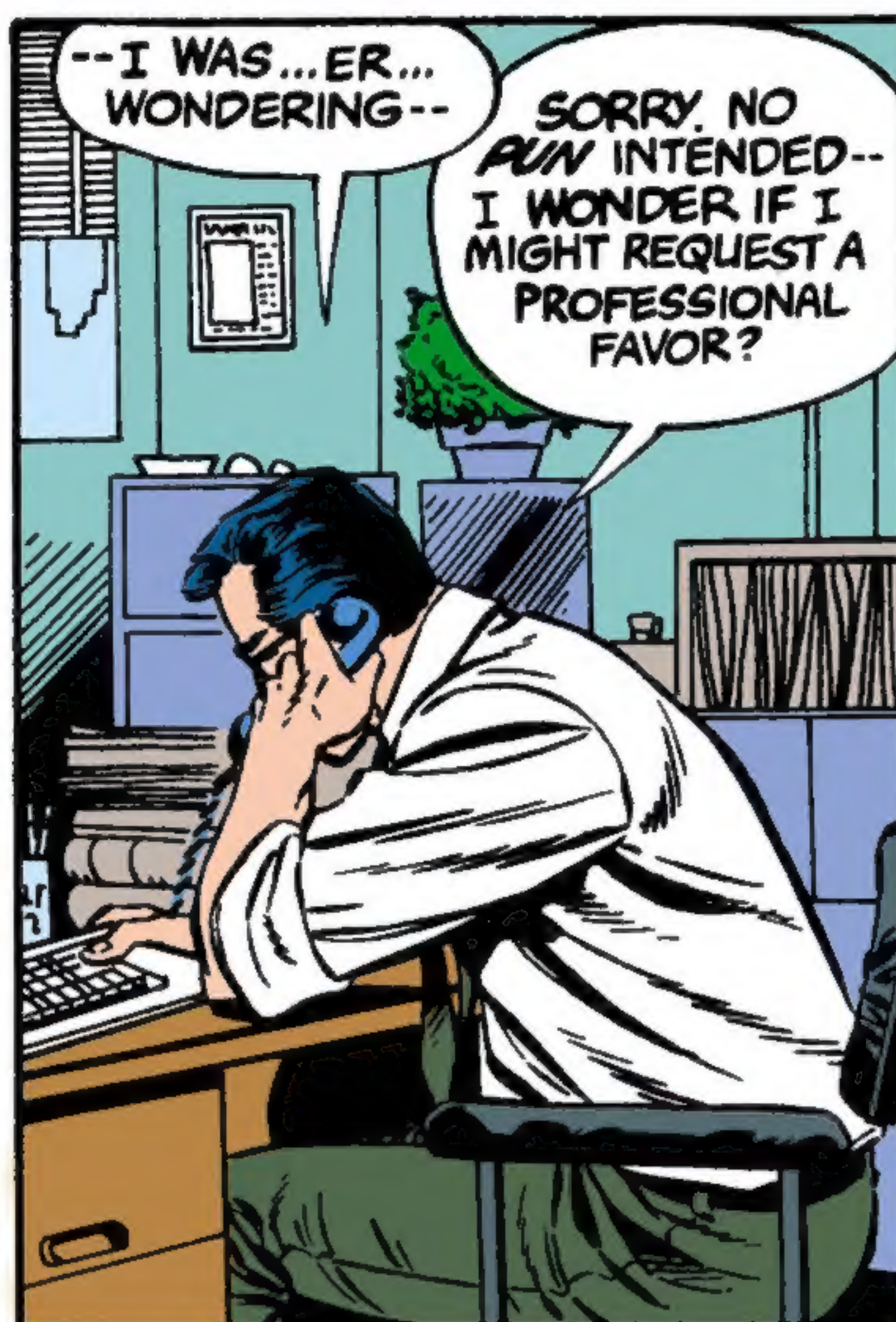
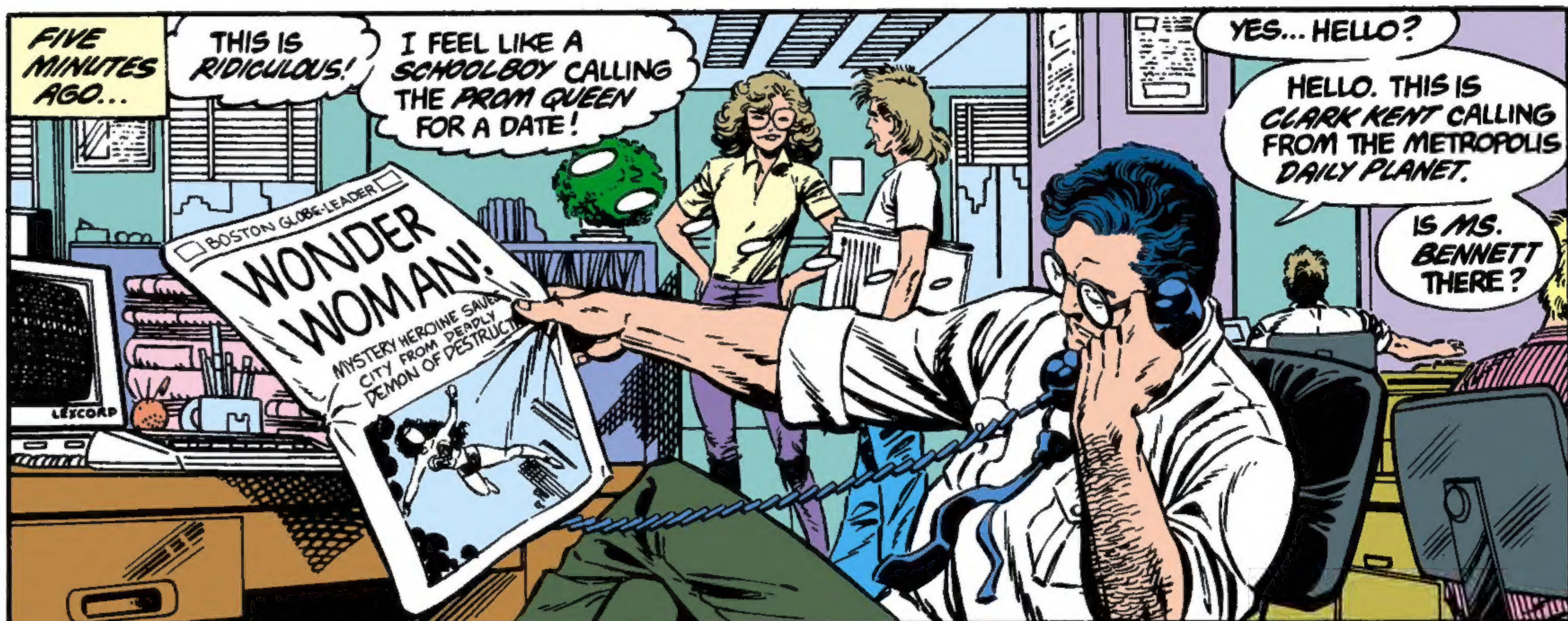
...THE ENERGY OF LIFE ITSELF!

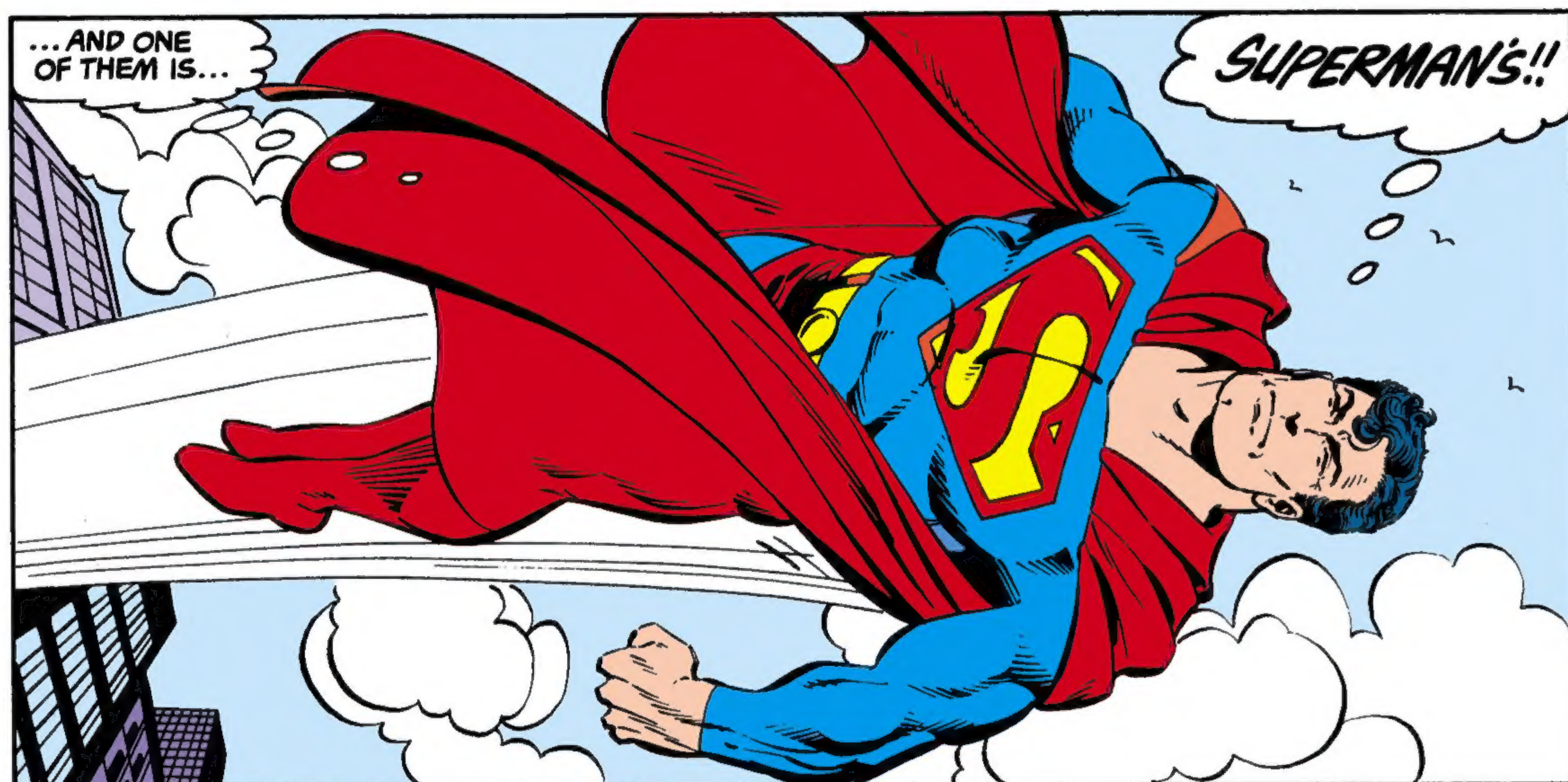
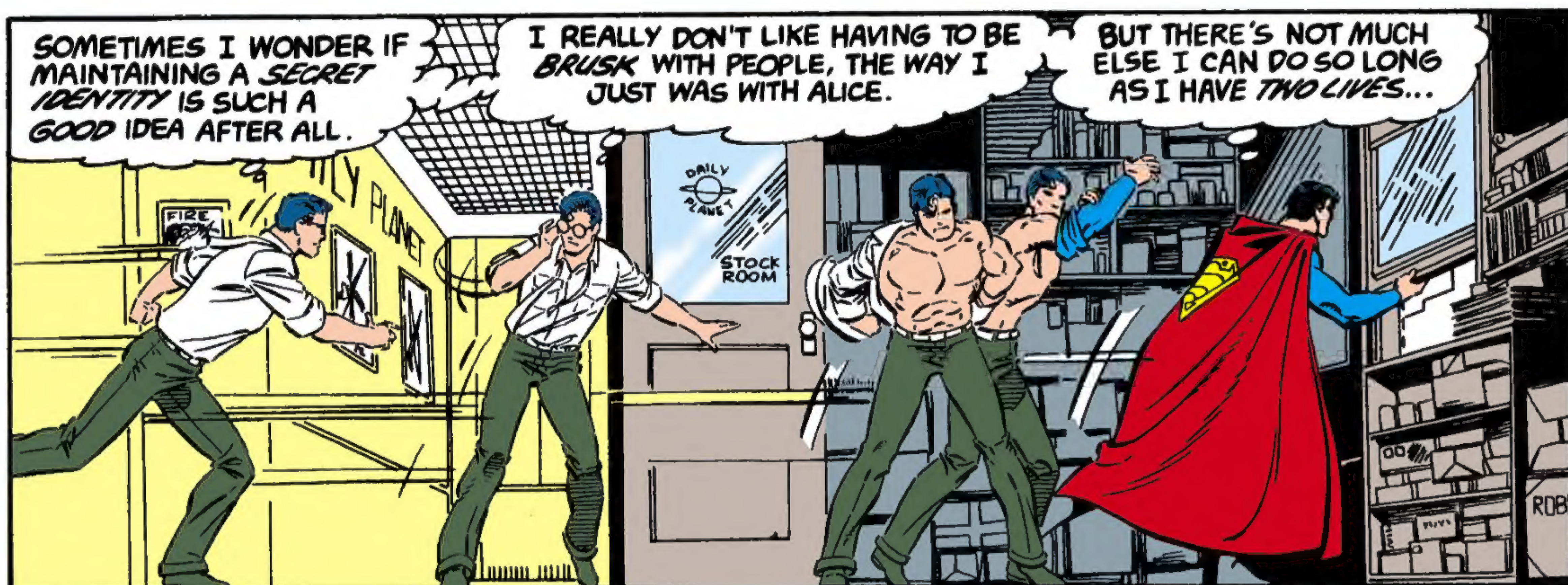
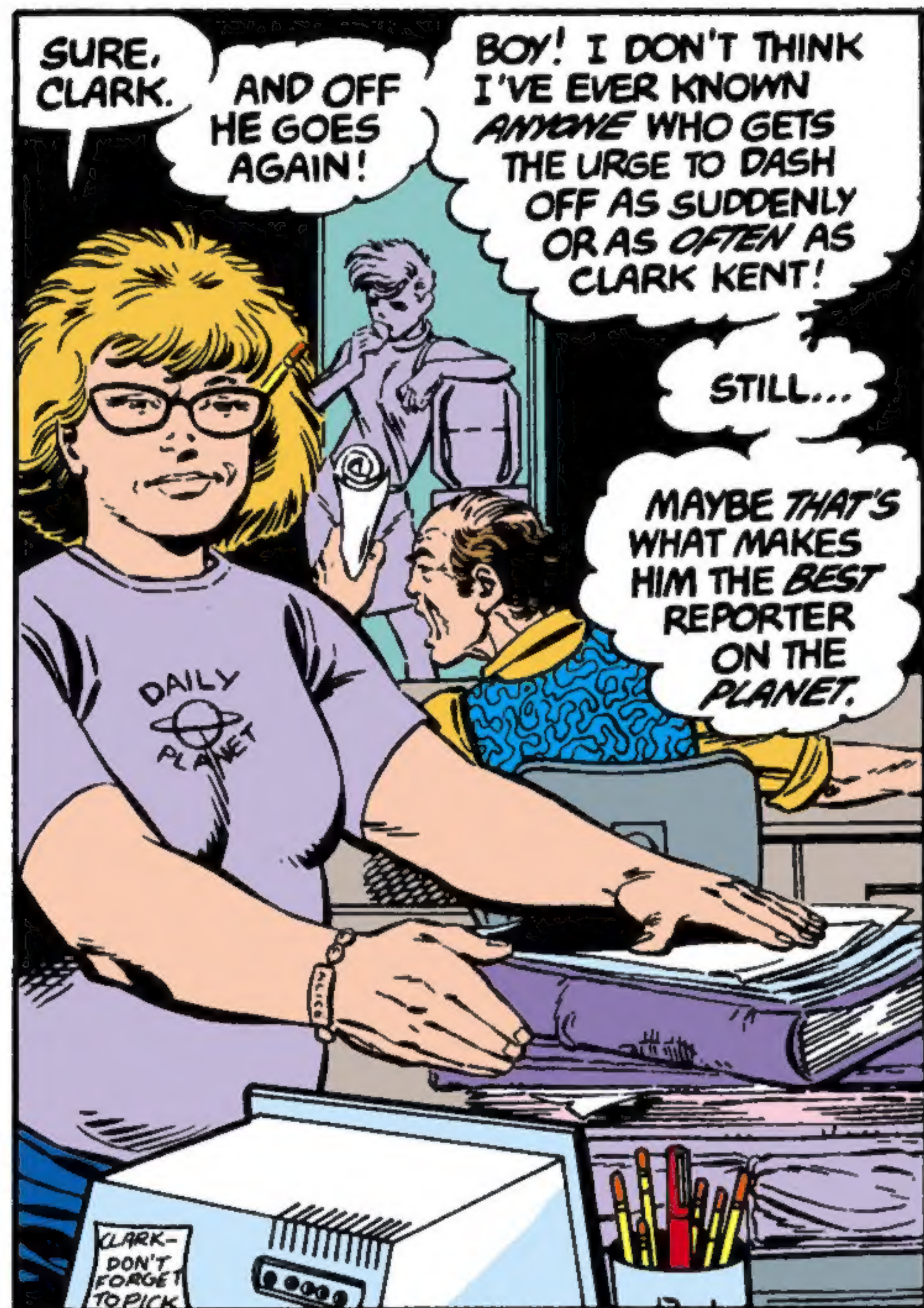
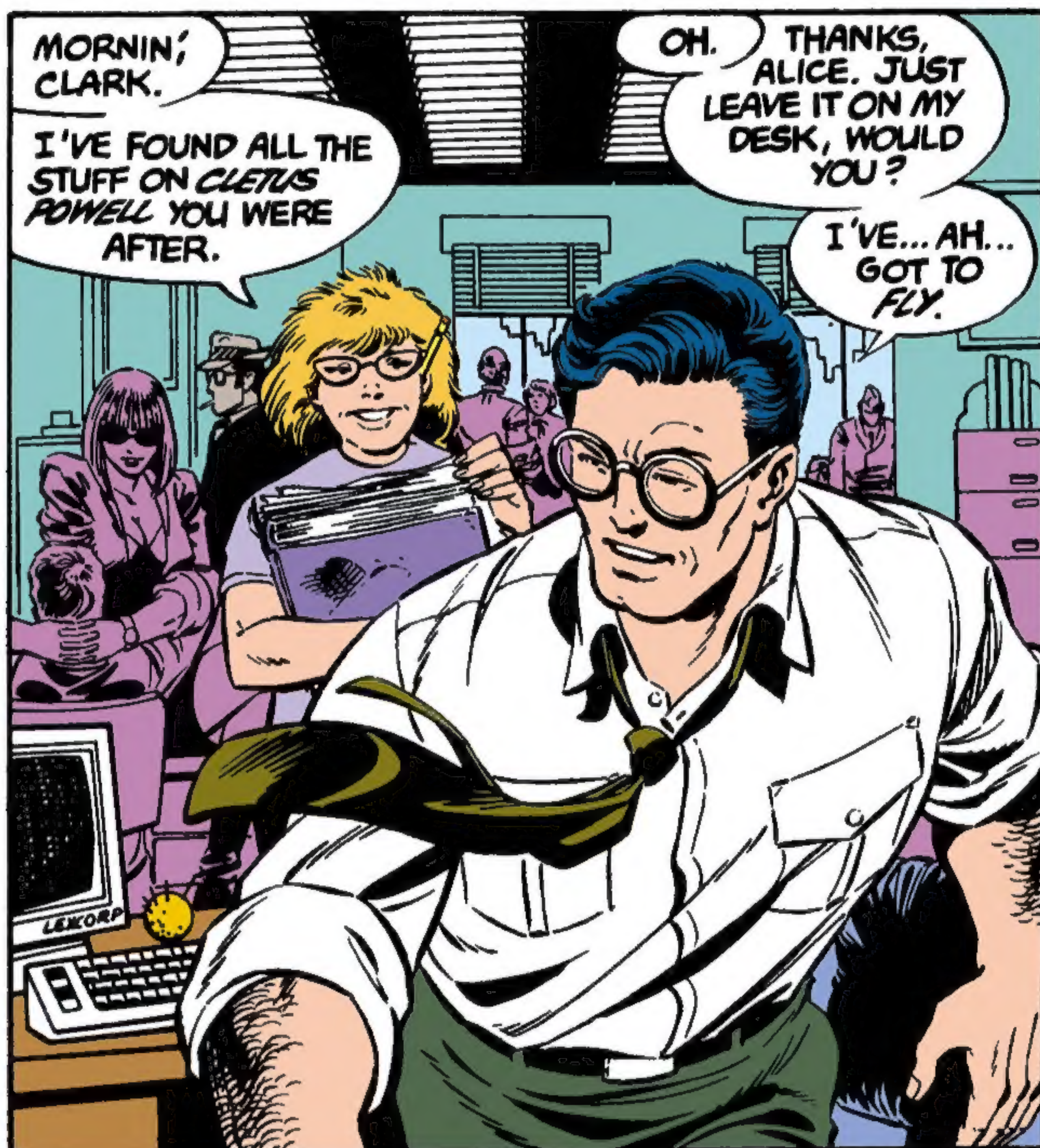
THERE, IN THE CONTAINMENT CANISTER, THE LIVING ALGAE FOUND IN A FEW MILLIGRAMS OF ORDINARY SEAWATER HAVE BEEN STIMULATED TO PRODUCE MILLIONS OF WATTS OF ELECTRICITY!

AND JUST HOW IS THAT A PROBLEM, DOCTOR MOYERS?











WELL -- TIME ENOUGH
TO THINK ABOUT
THAT LATER.

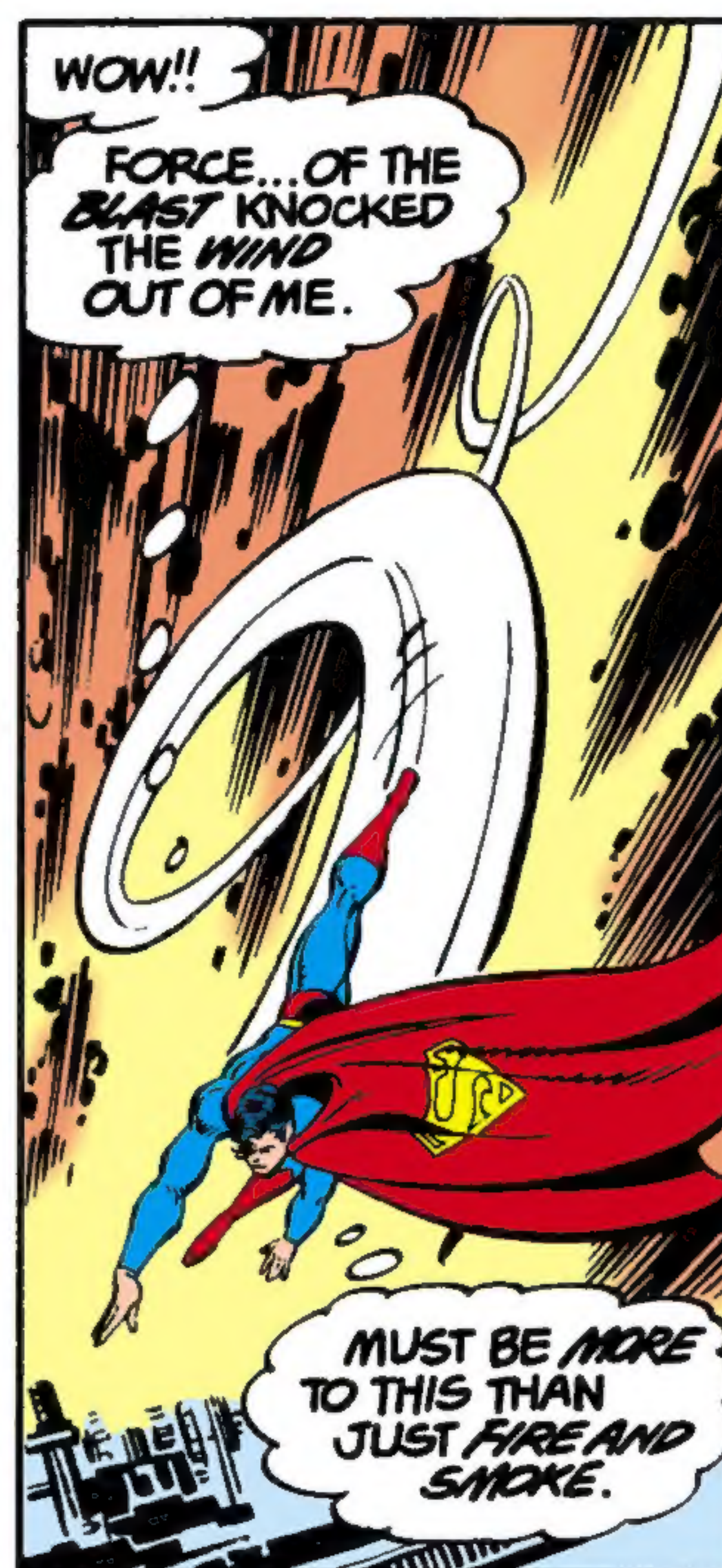
MY SUPER-SENSES
ARE PICKING UP ALL
KINDS OF ALARMS
GOING OFF AROUND
THAT BLAZE...

BUT BY THE
TIME THE FIRE
BRIGADE ARRIVES
IT MIGHT HAVE
SPREAD TO
ALL THE
SURROUNDING
STRUCTURES.



SO LET'S JUST
SEE WHAT I
CAN DO ABOUT...

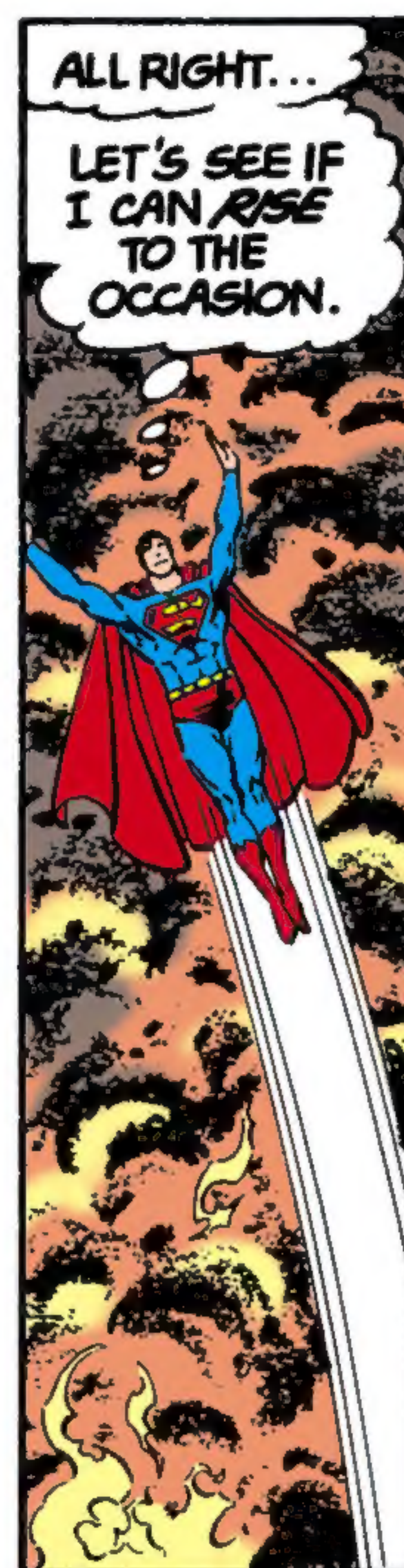
UNGH!!!



WOW!!

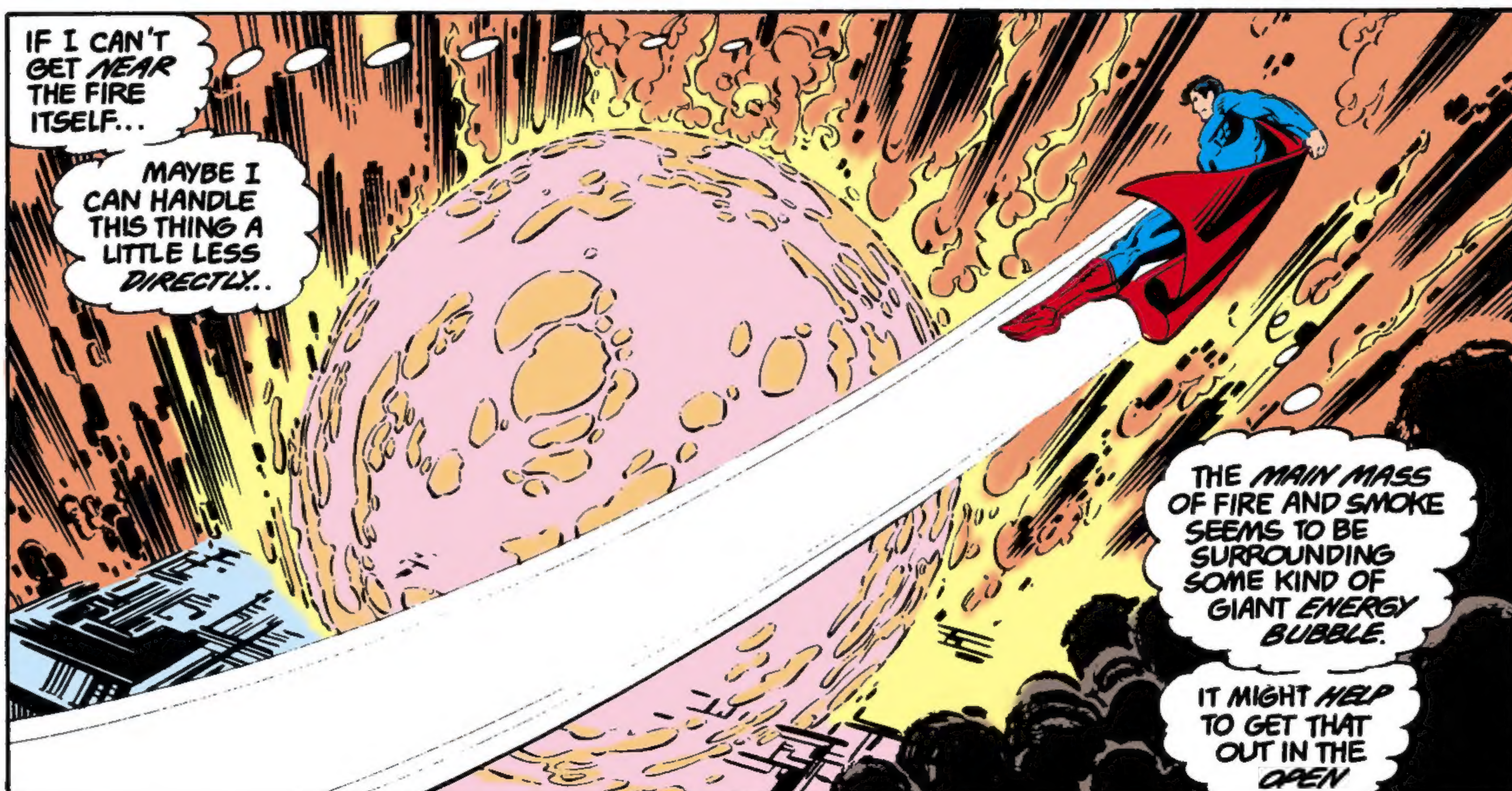
FORCE... OF THE
BLAST KNOCKED
THE WIND
OUT OF ME.

MUST BE MORE
TO THIS THAN
JUST FIRE AND
SMOKE.



ALL RIGHT...

LET'S SEE IF
I CAN RISE
TO THE
OCCASION.



IF I CAN'T
GET NEAR
THE FIRE
ITSELF...

MAYBE I
CAN HANDLE
THIS THING A
LITTLE LESS
DIRECTLY..

THE MAIN MASS
OF FIRE AND SMOKE
SEEMS TO BE
SURROUNDING
SOME KIND OF
GIANT ENERGY
BUBBLE.

IT MIGHT HELP
TO GET THAT
OUT IN THE
OPEN

AND THE *BEST* WAY
I CAN THINK OF TO
DO *THAT*...



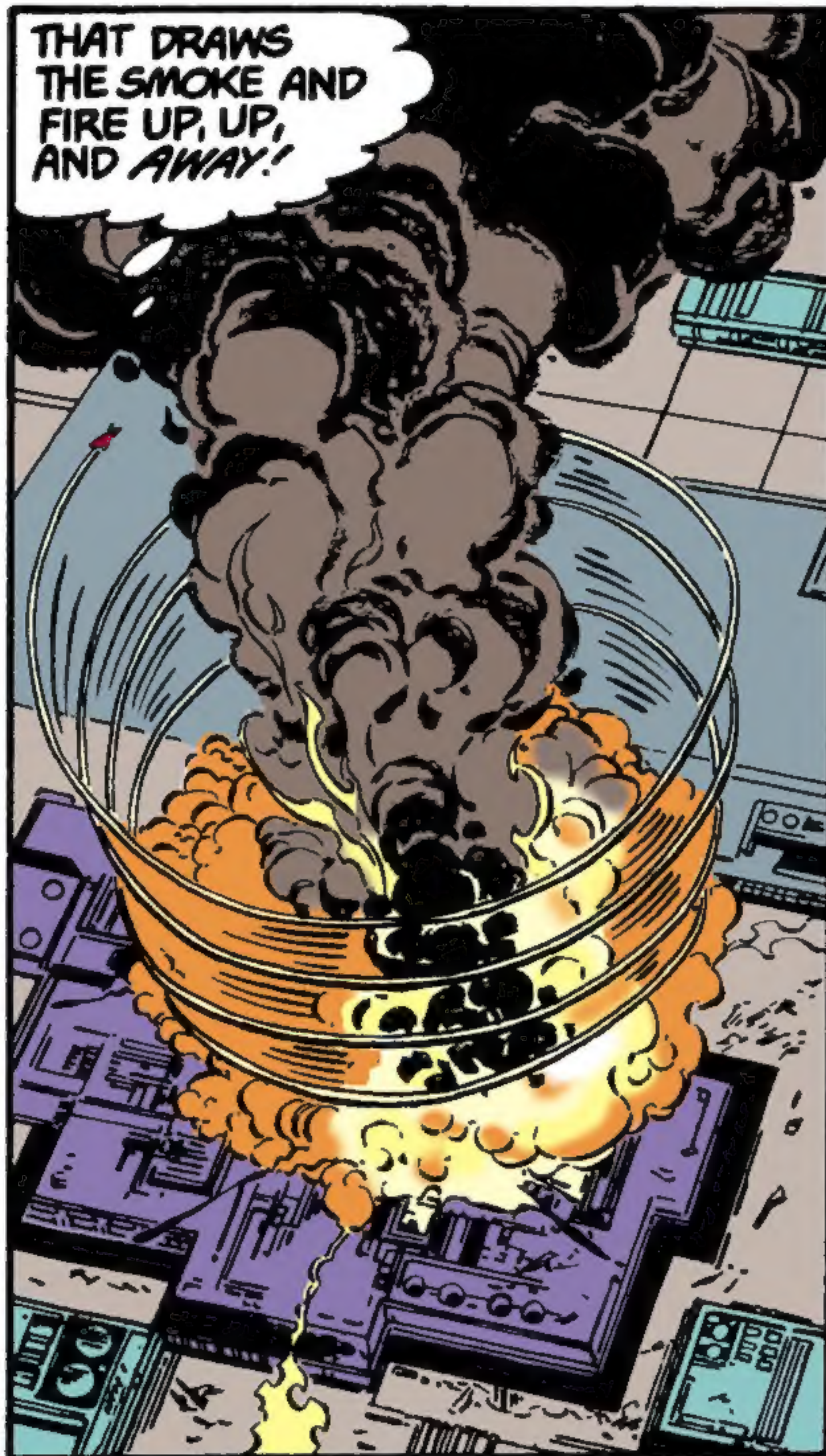
...IS TO CIRCLE
THE CONFLAGRATION
AT *SUPER-SPEED*...



...SO THAT MY
SLIP-STREAM
CREATES A PARTIAL
VACUUM...

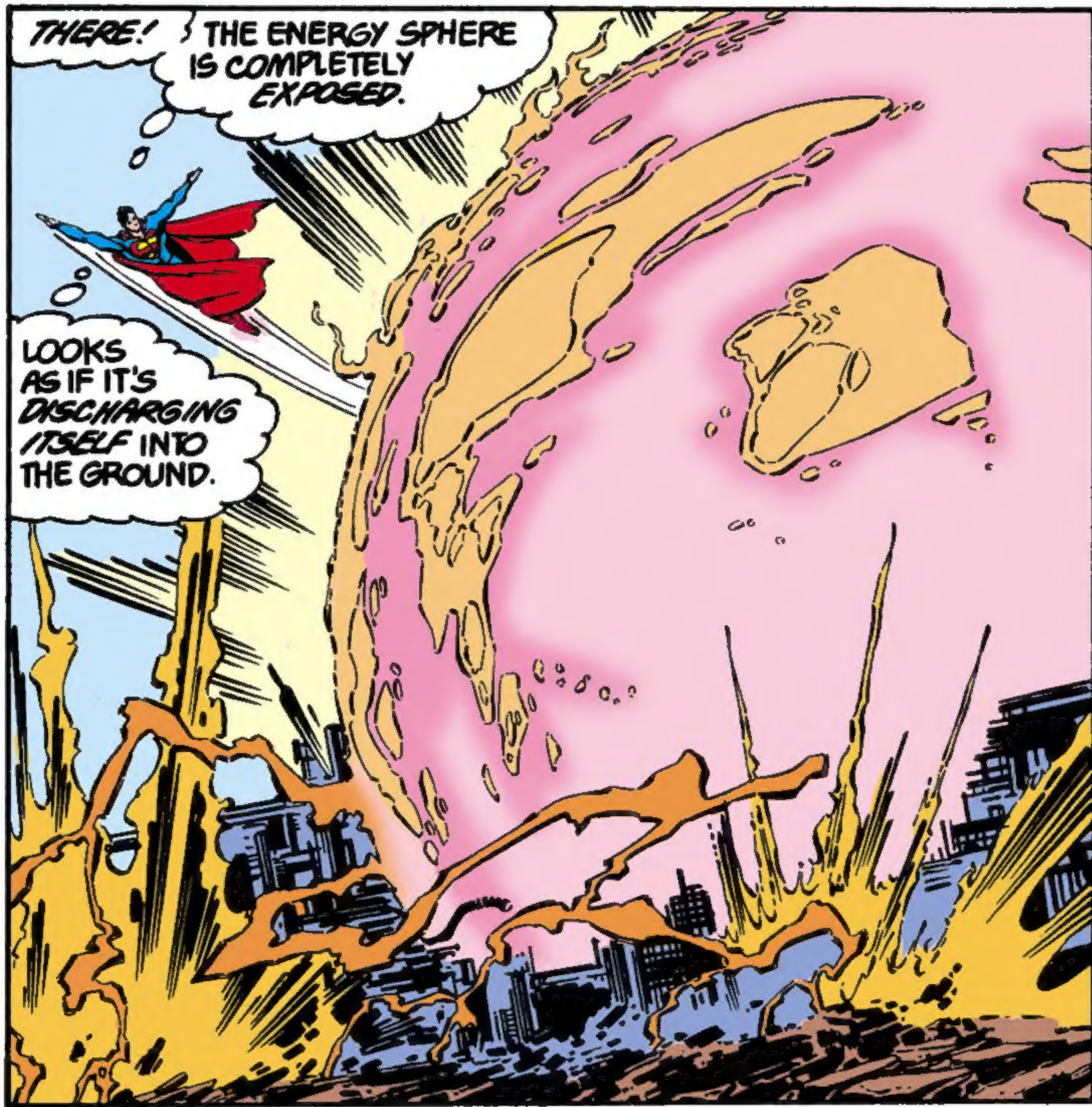


THAT DRAWS
THE SMOKE AND
FIRE UP, UP,
AND *AWAY*!



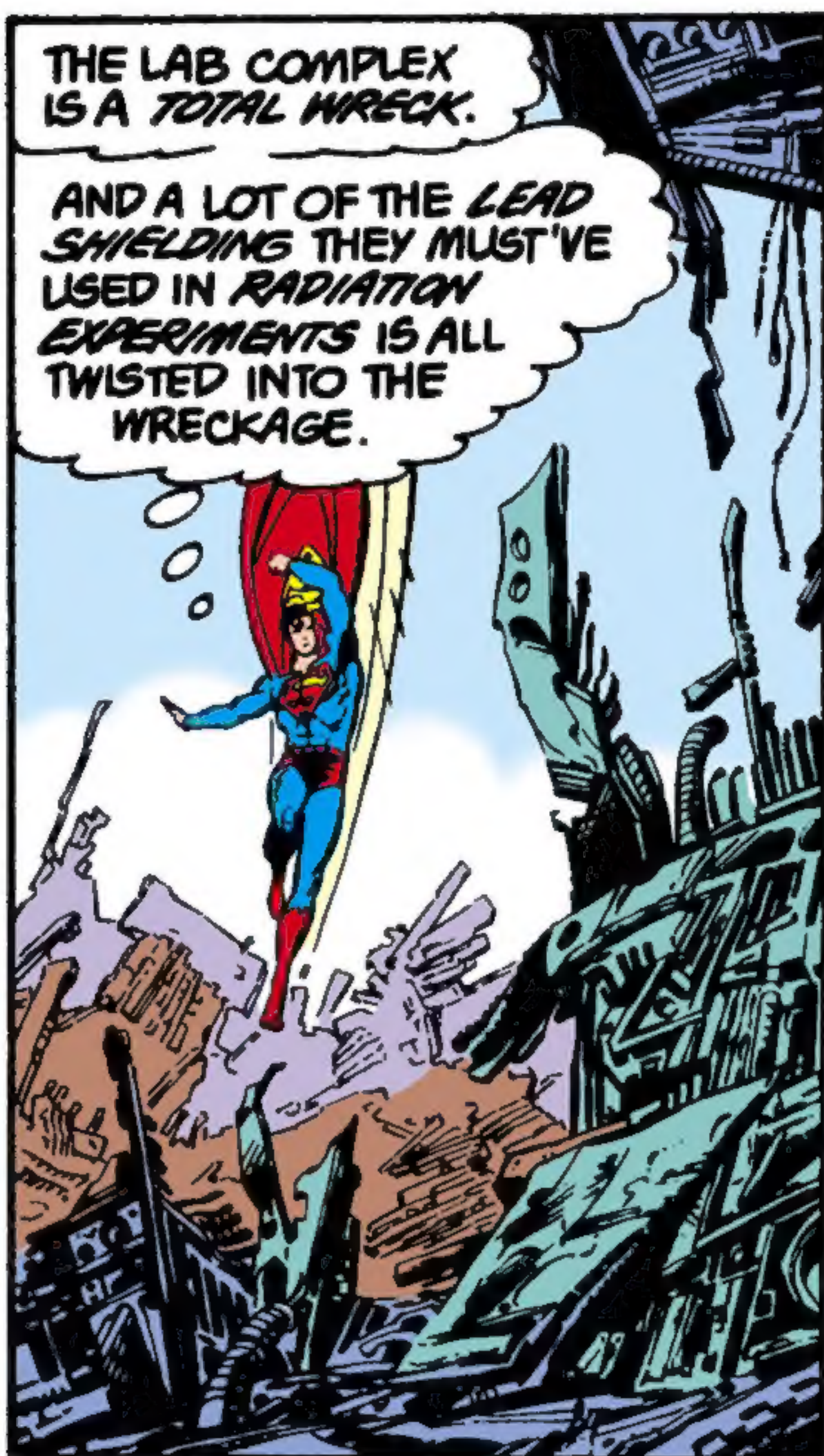
THERE! THE ENERGY SPHERE
IS COMPLETELY
EXPOSED.

LOOKS
AS IF IT'S
DISCHARGING
ITSELF INTO
THE GROUND.



THE LAB COMPLEX
IS A *TOTAL WRECK*.

AND A LOT OF THE *LEAD*
SHIELDING THEY MUST'VE
USED IN *RADIATION*
EXPERIMENTS IS ALL
TWISTED INTO THE
WRECKAGE.



IT'S *SCREWING UP*
MY X-RAY VISION
OVER LARGE
AREAS.

I'M
GOING TO
HAVE TO
SEARCH FOR
SURVIVORS THE
HARD WAY.

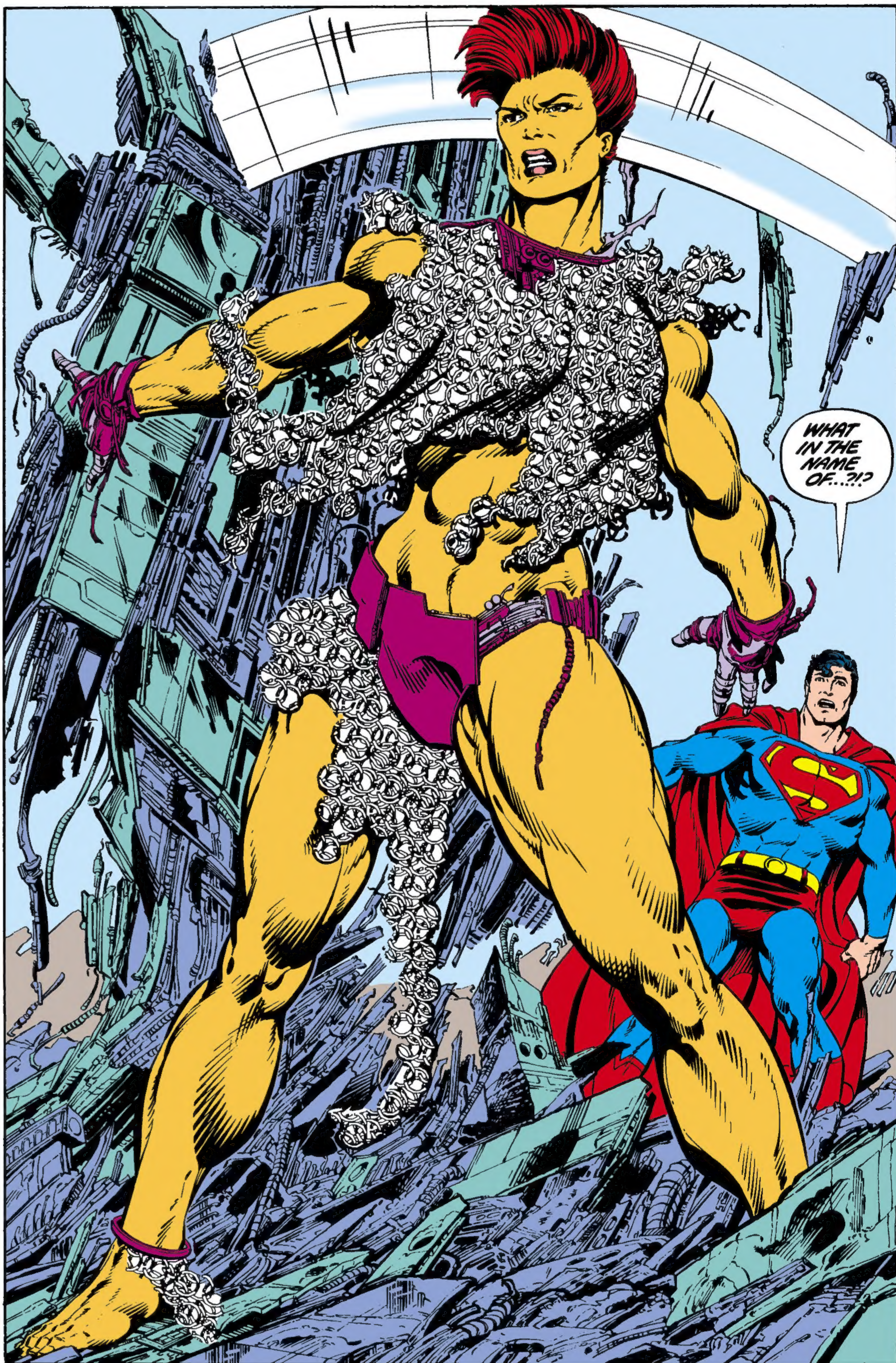


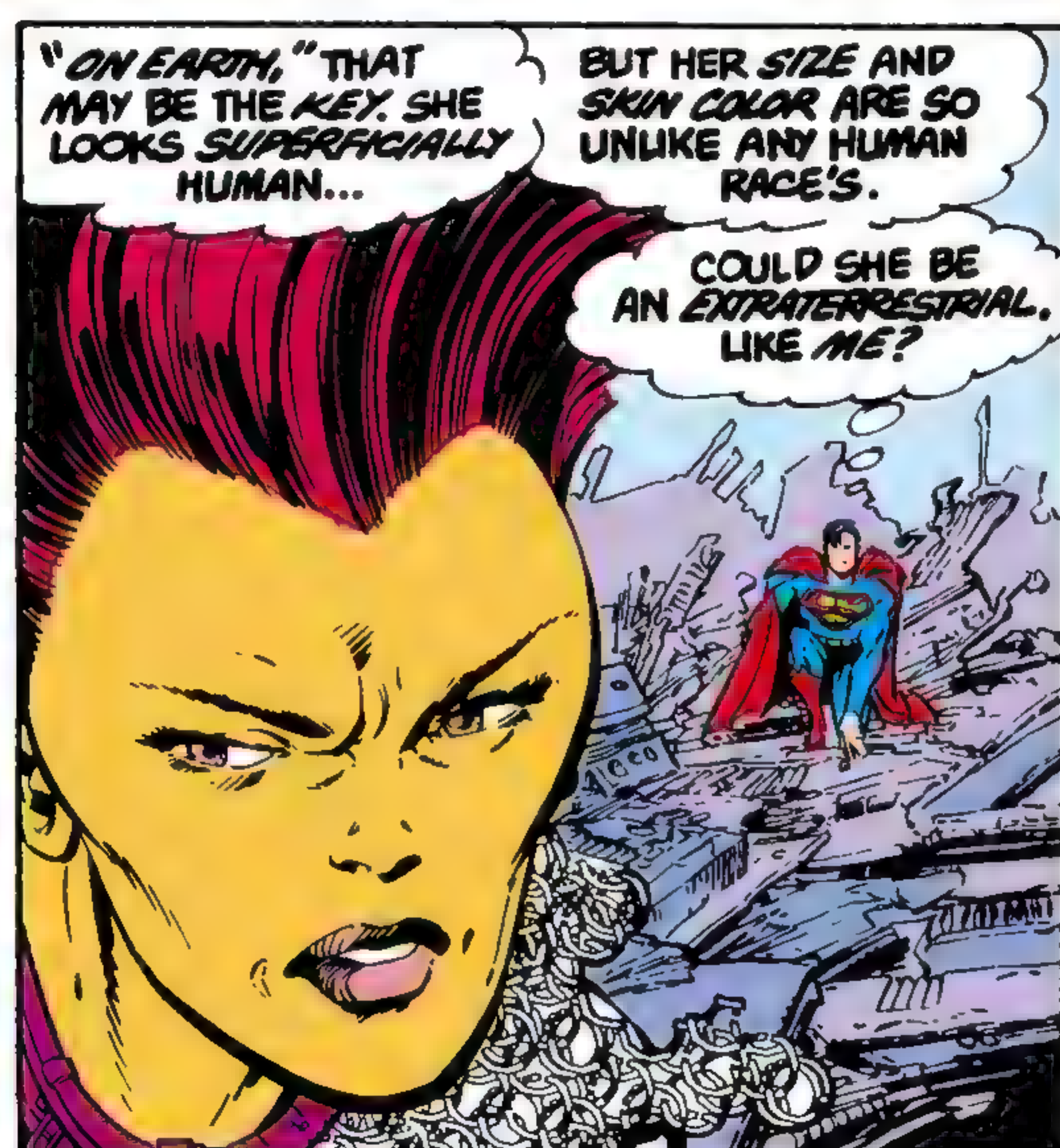
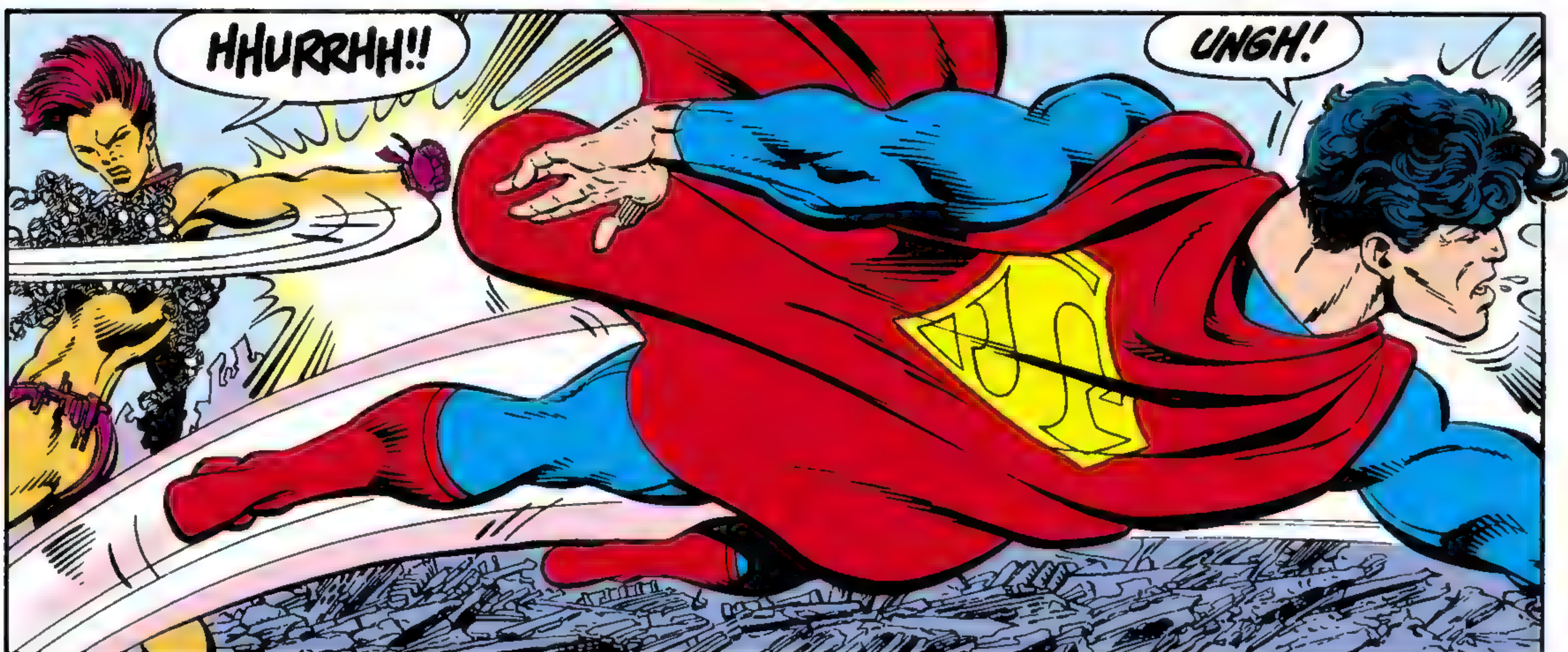
WAIT...

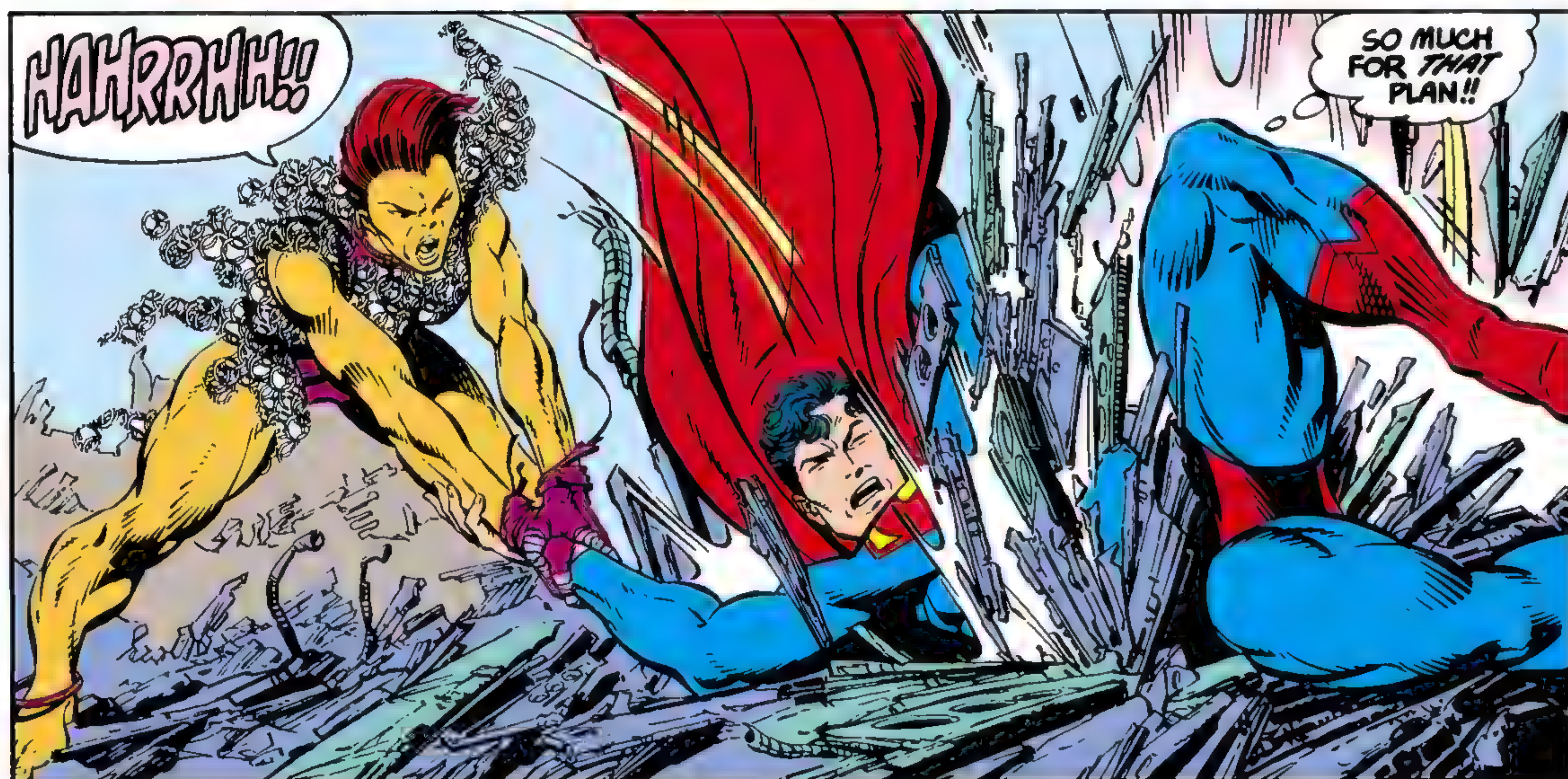
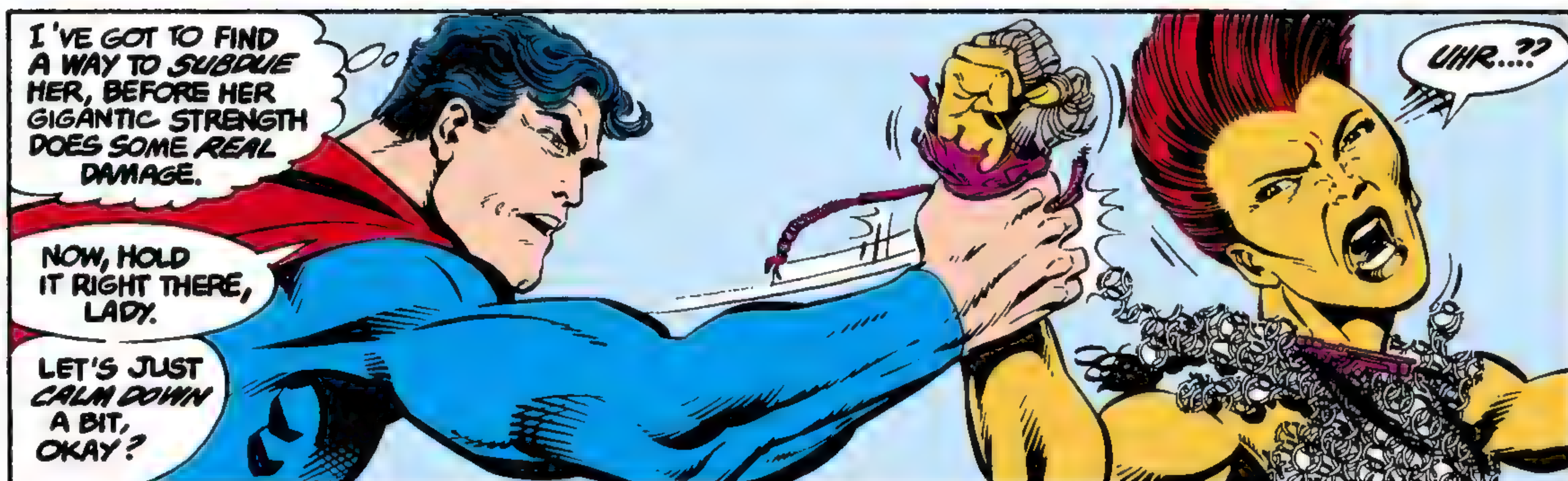
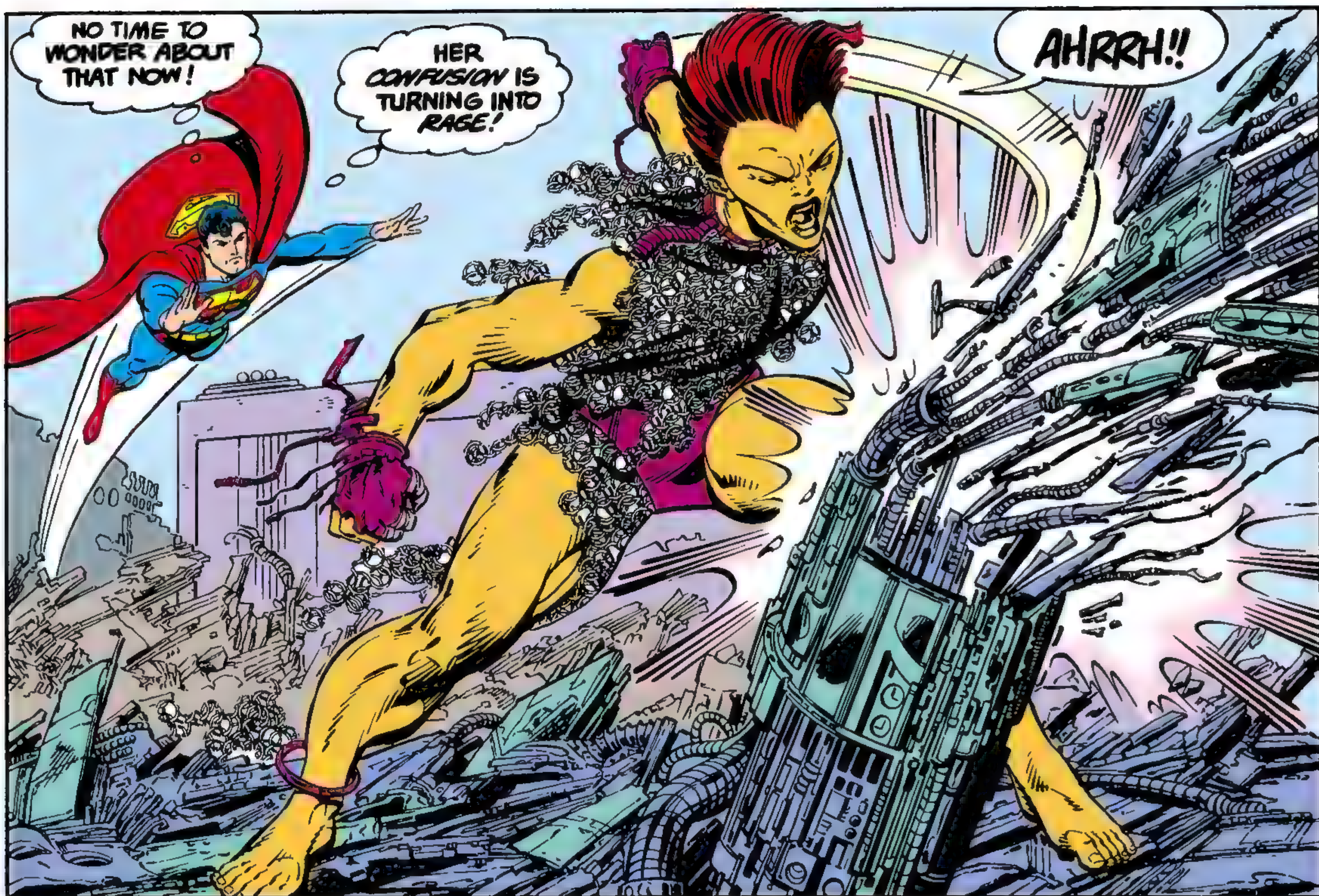
SOME KIND
OF *MOVEMENT*
UNDER THE RUBBLE
WHAT...

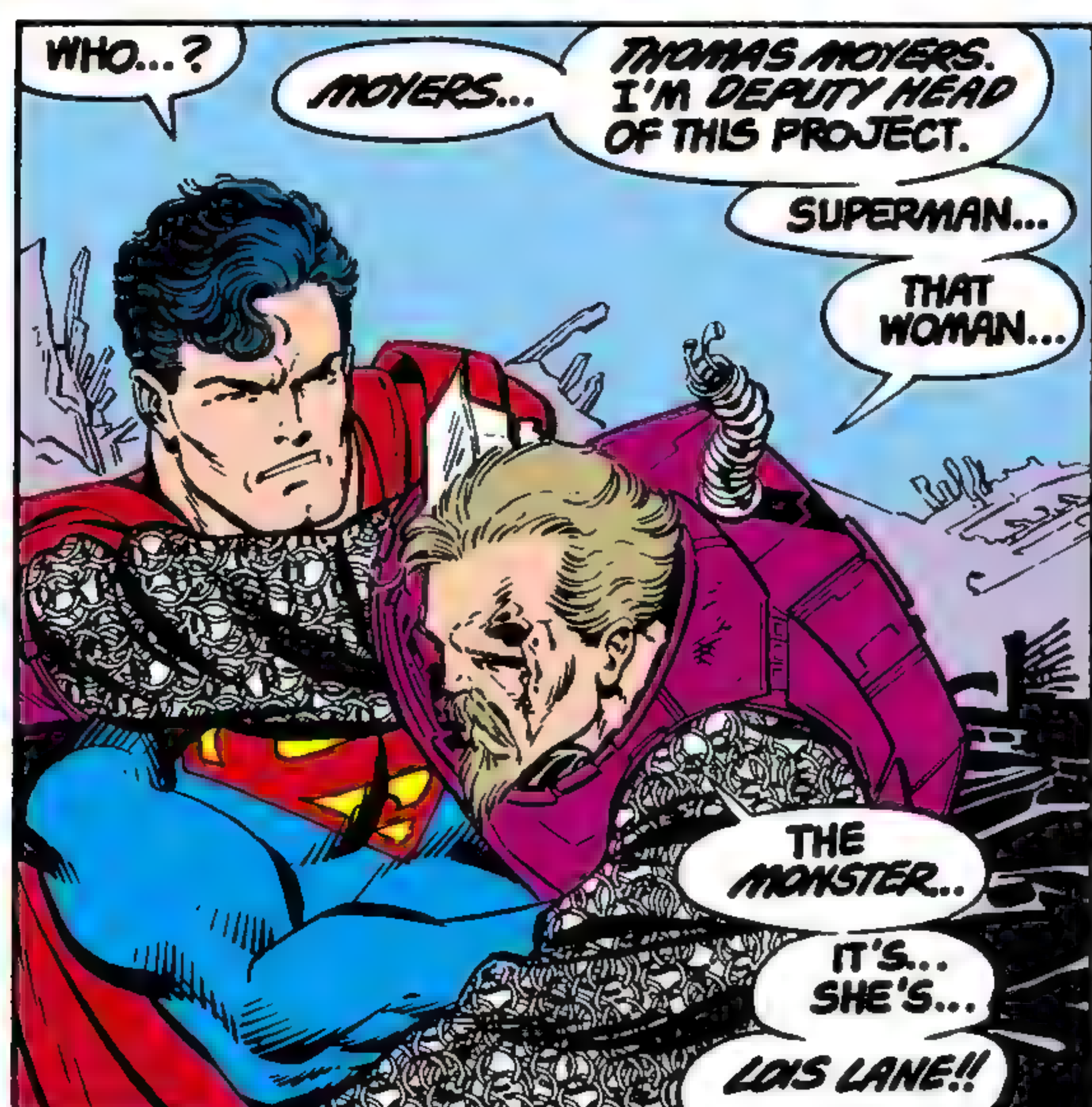
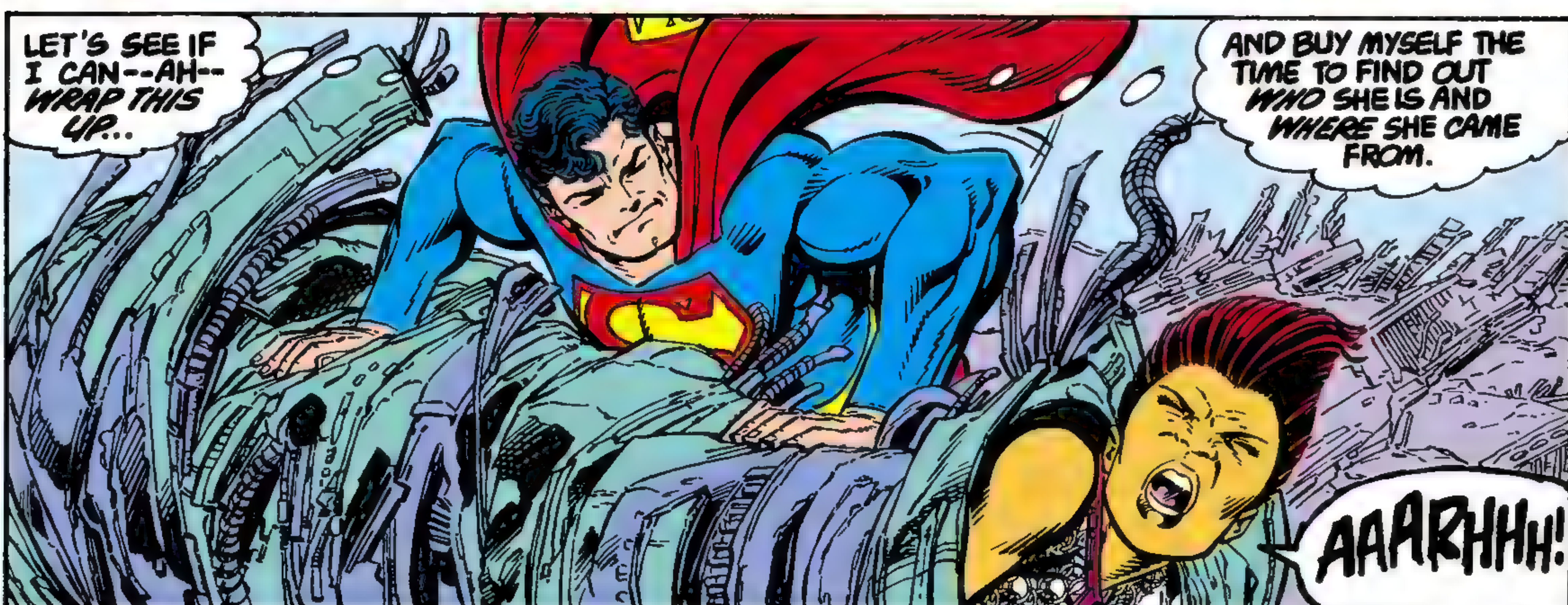
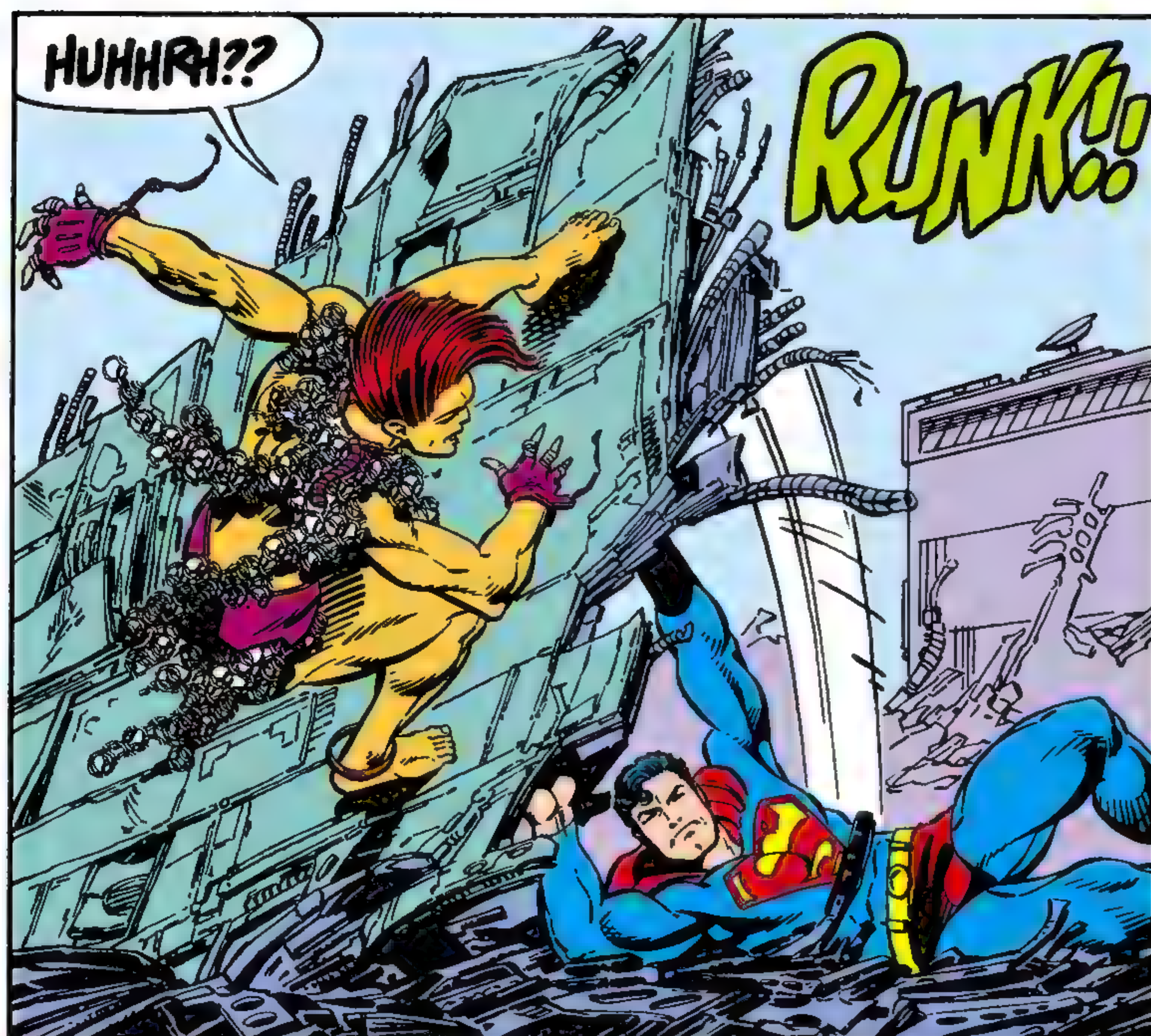
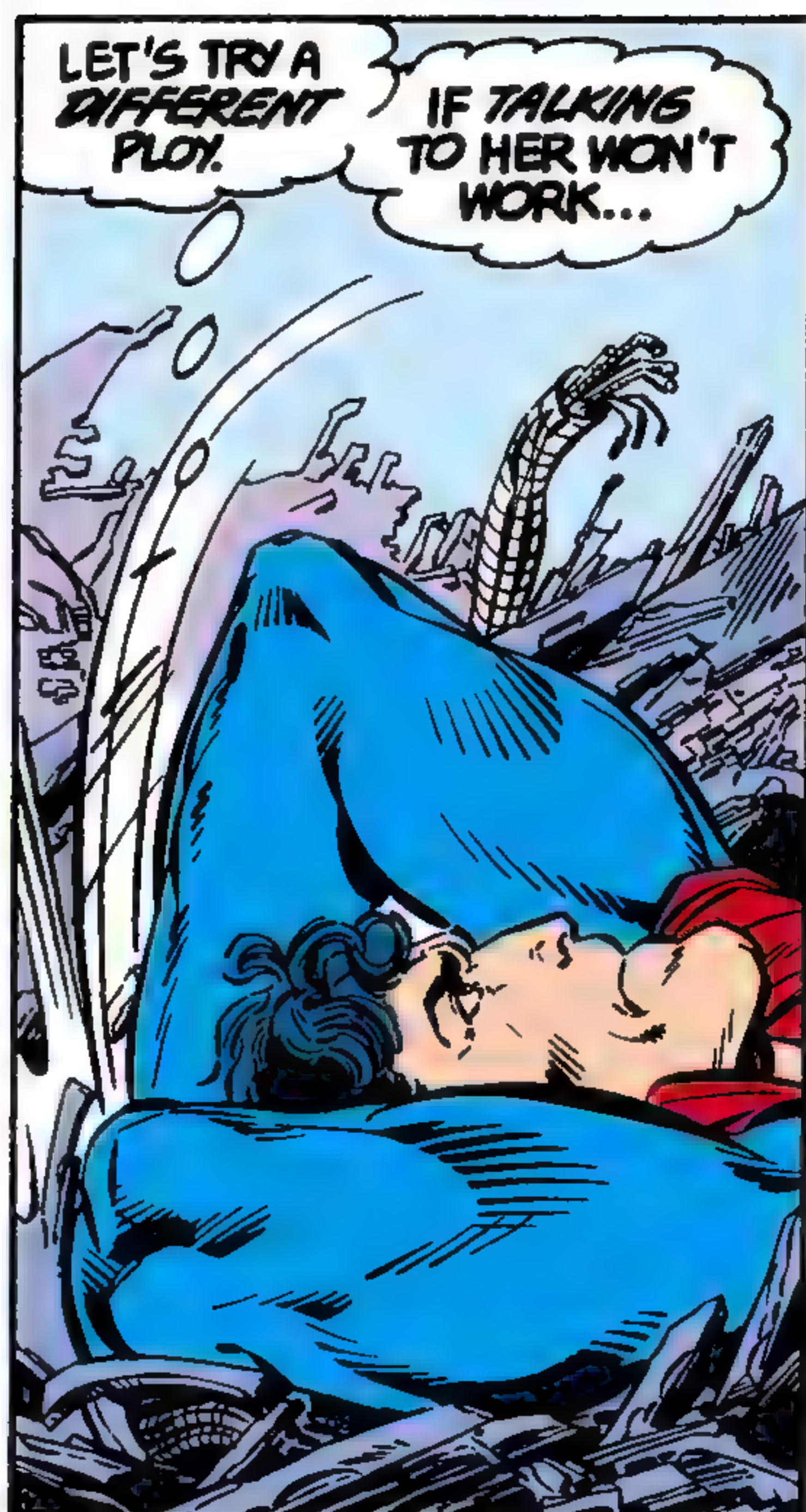
WHOA!!

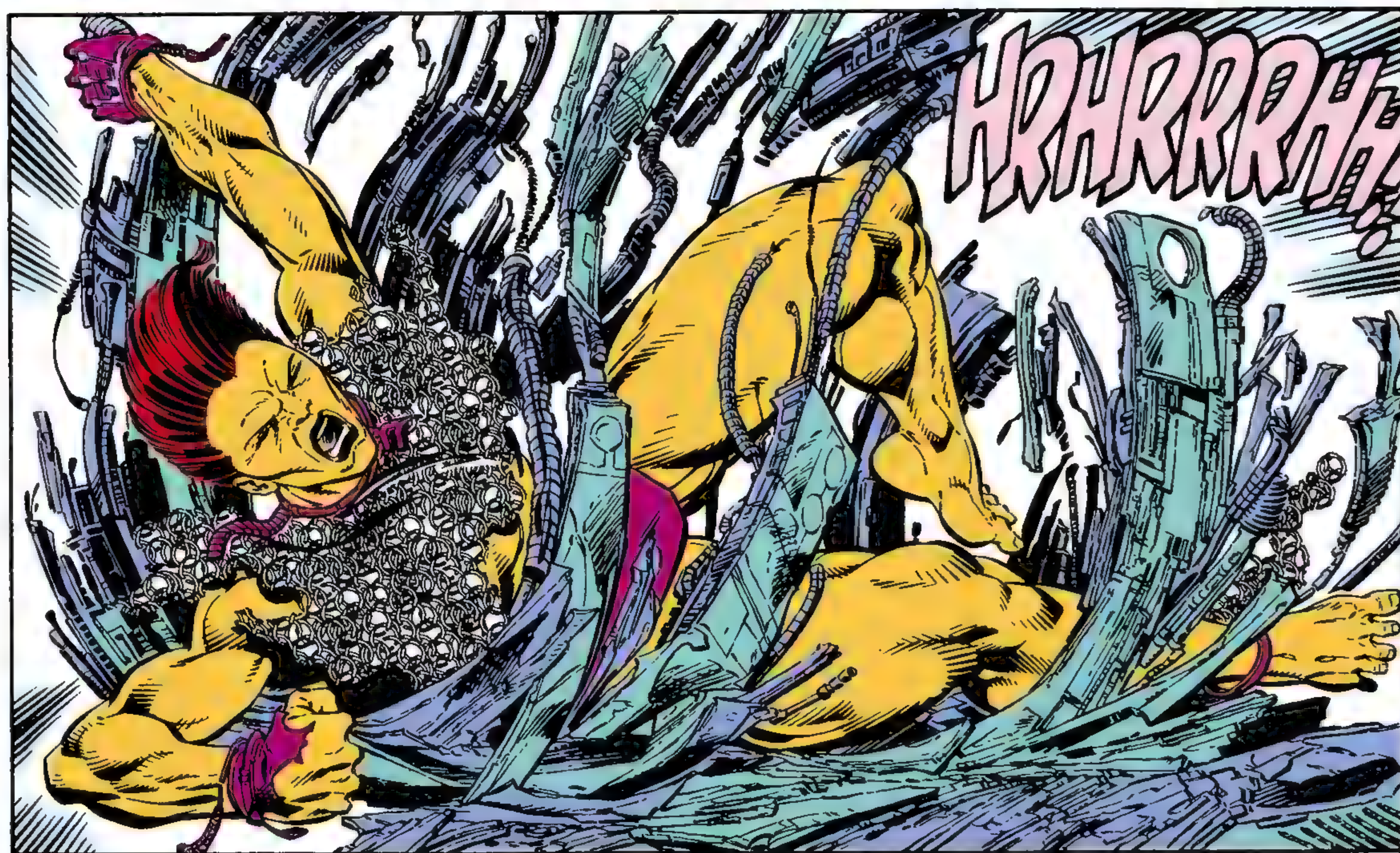
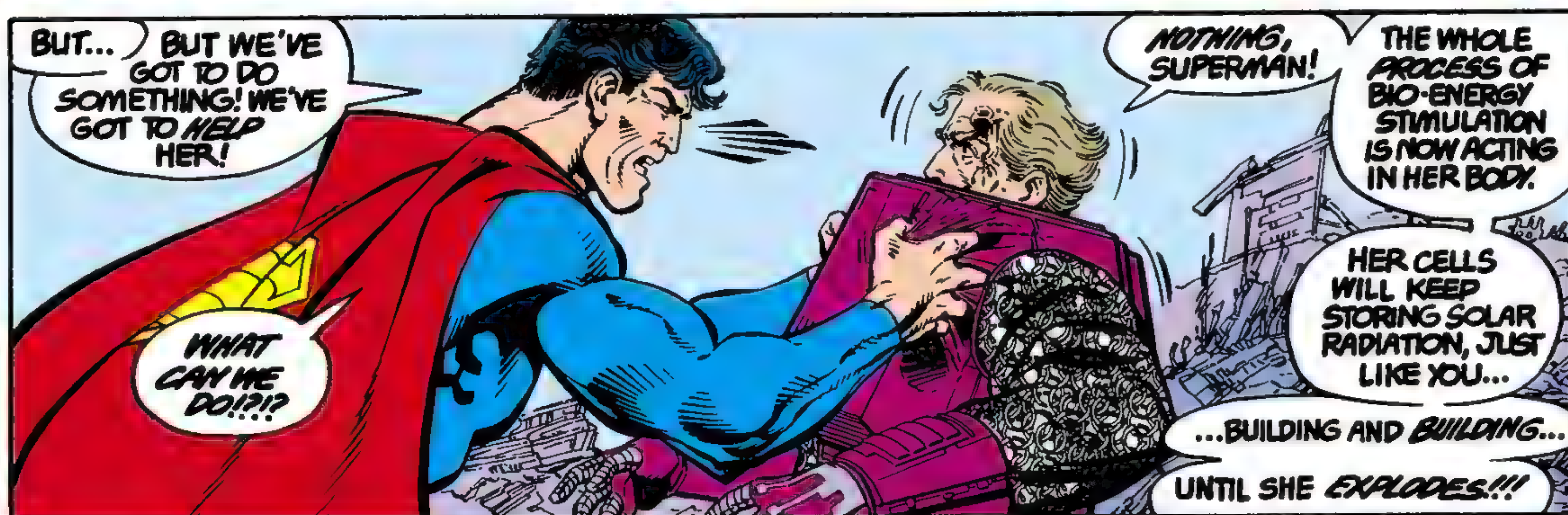
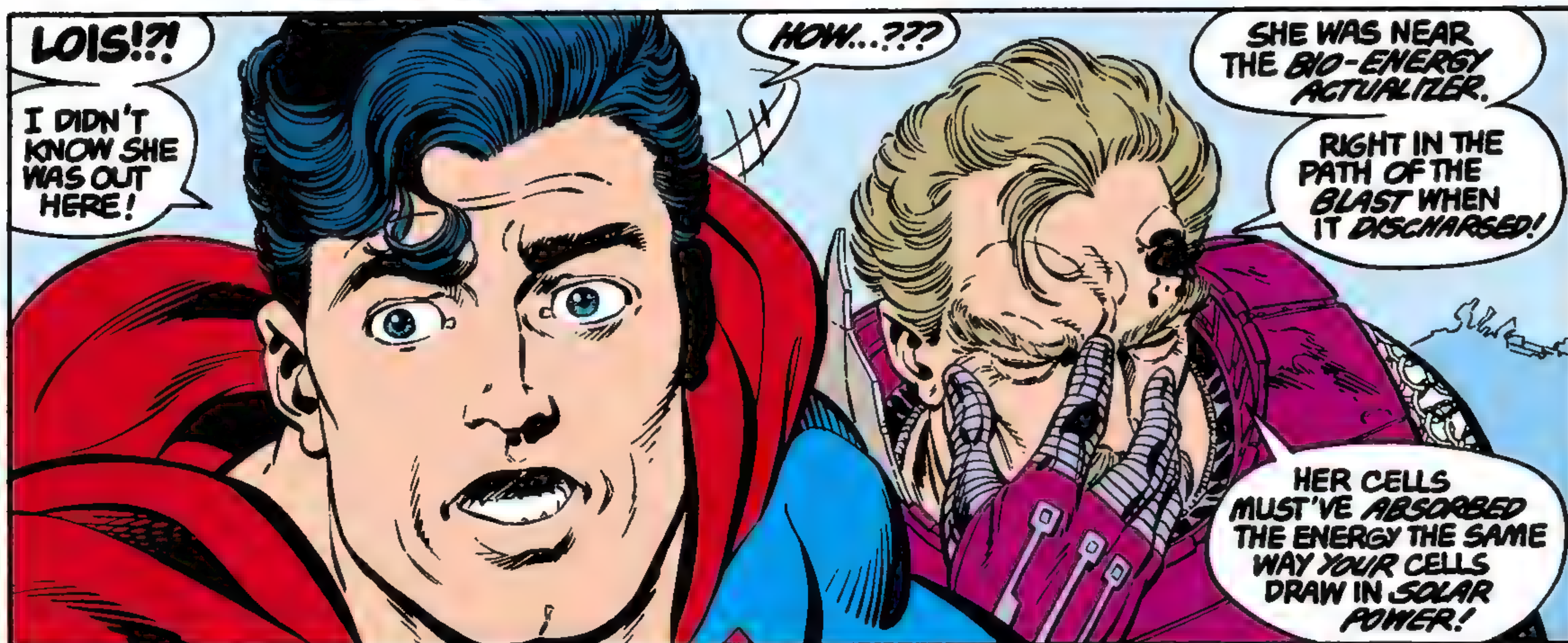


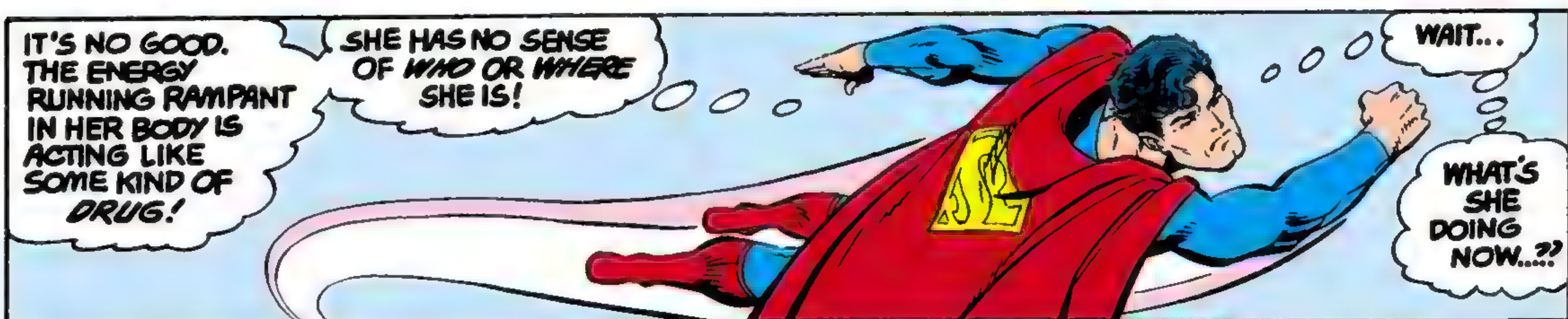
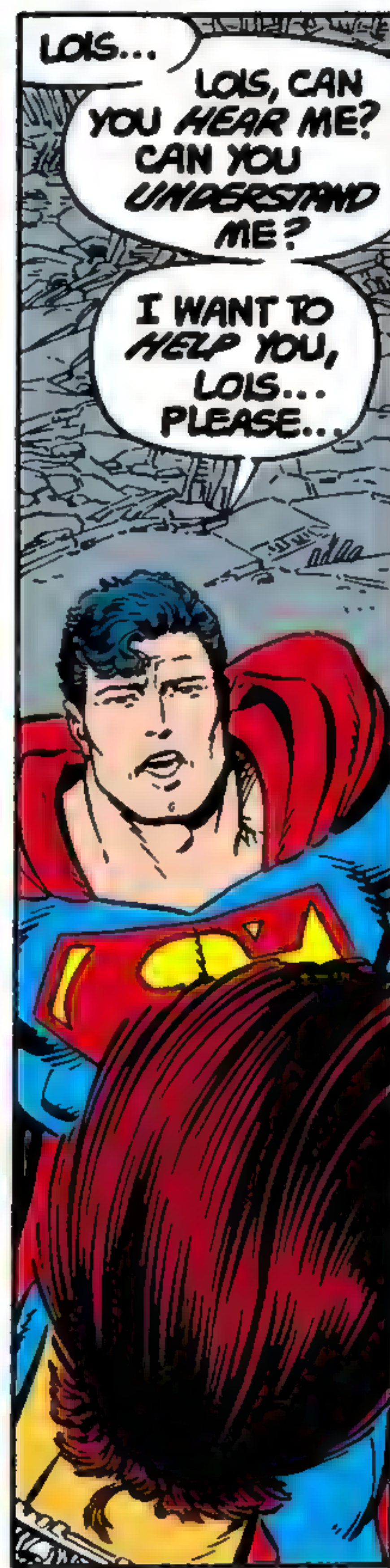


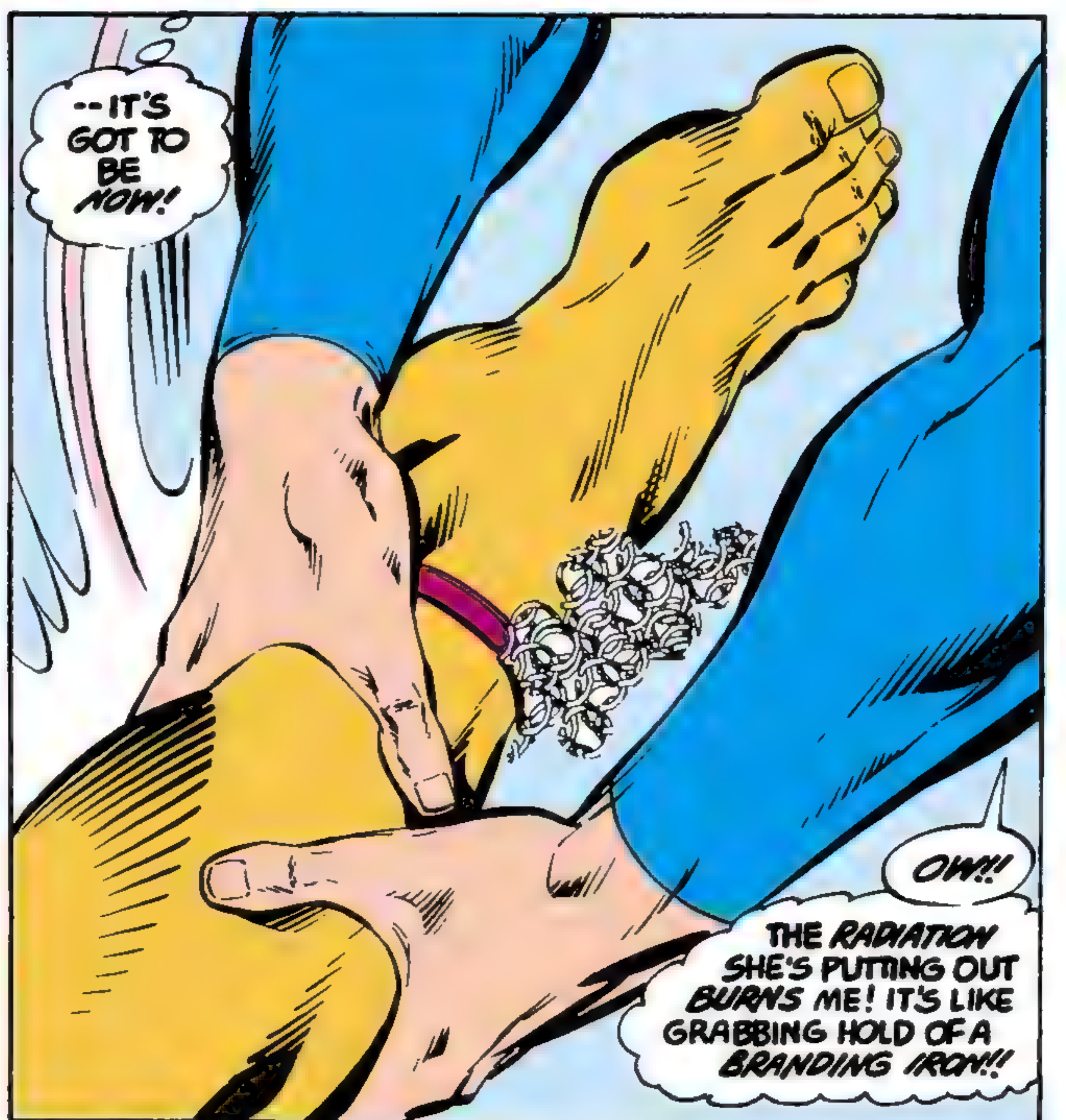
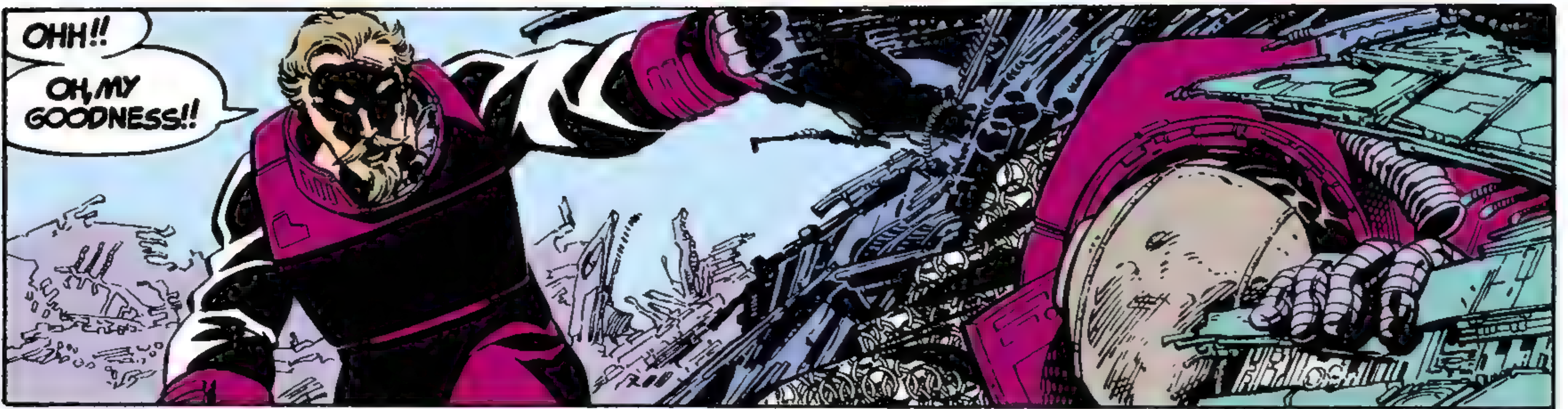
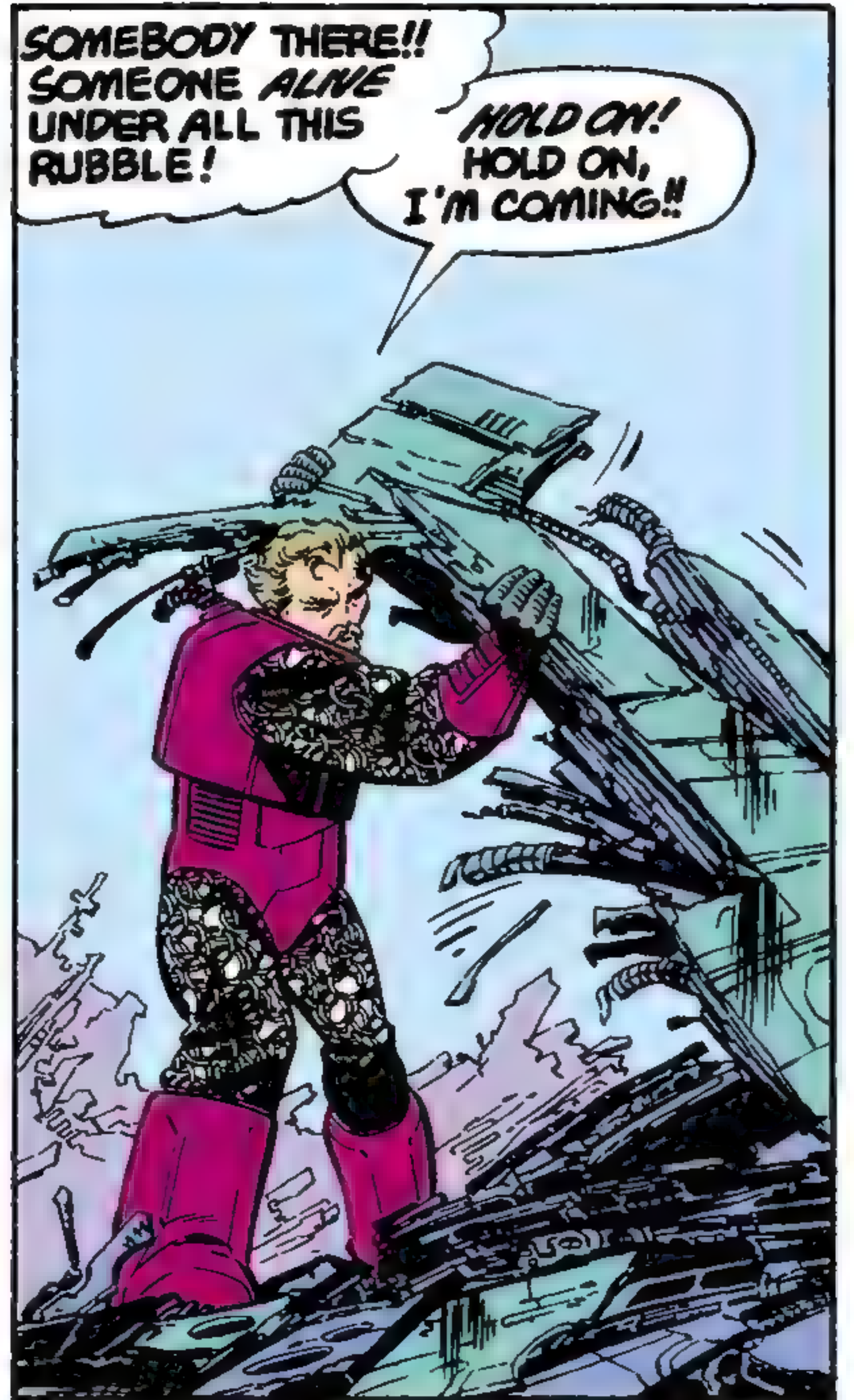


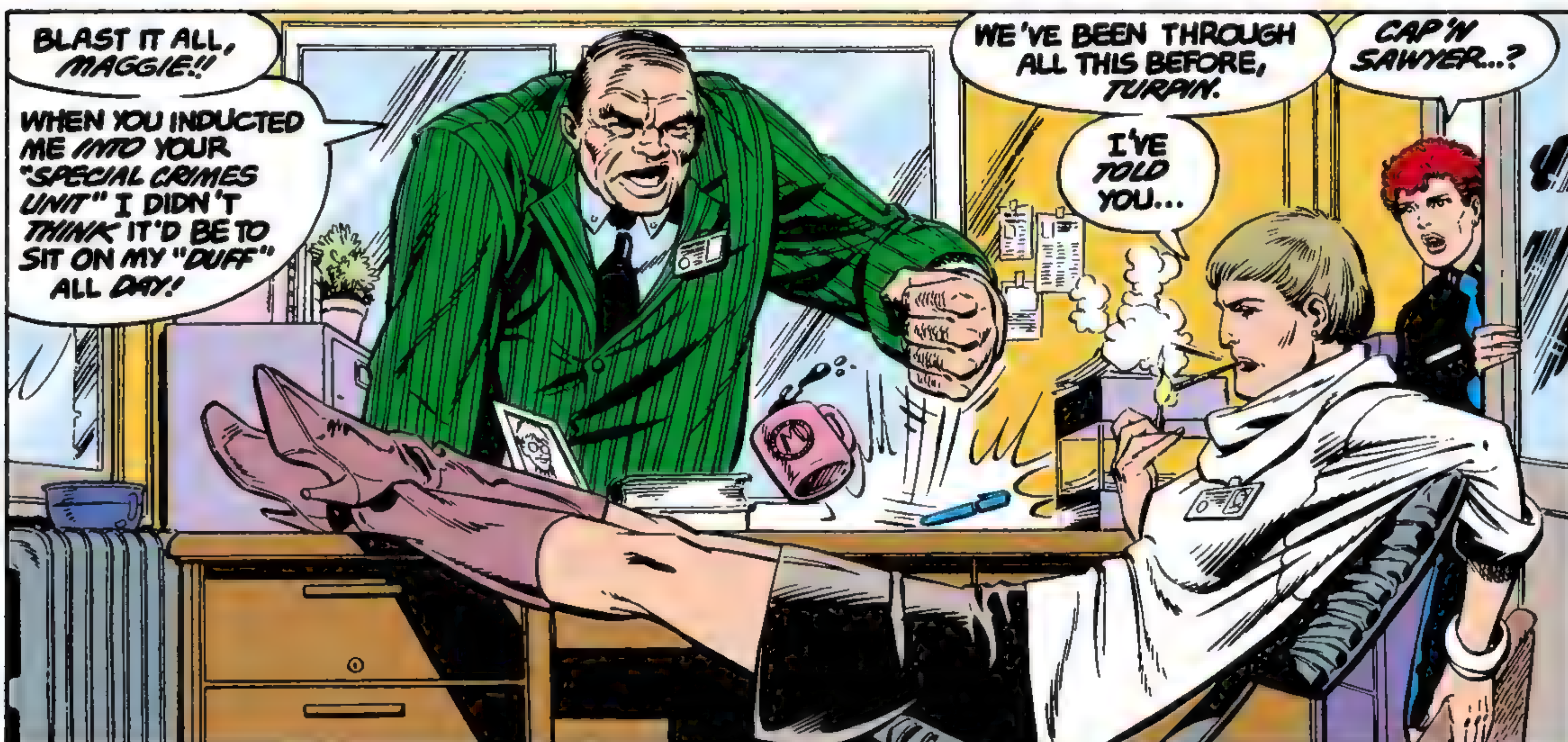
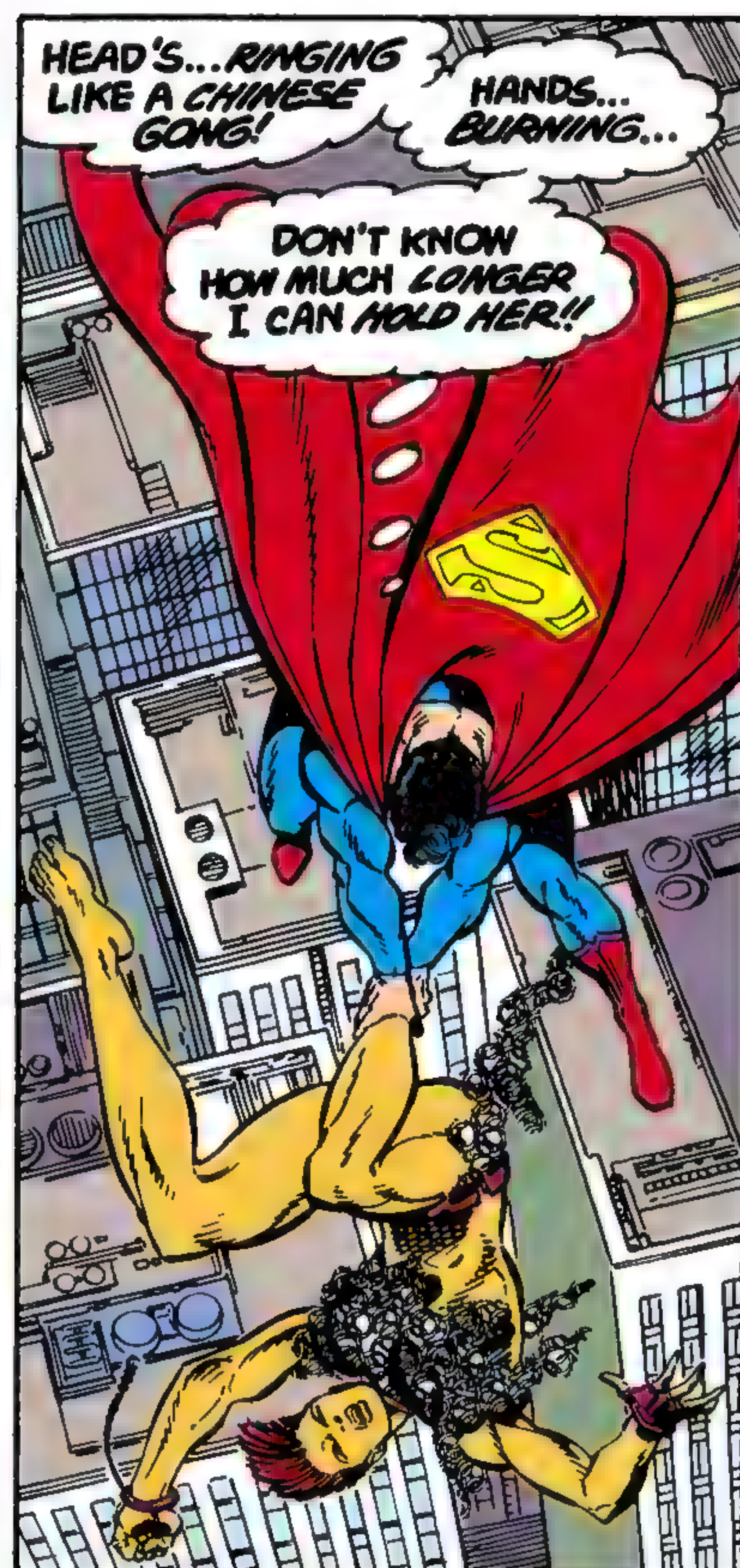


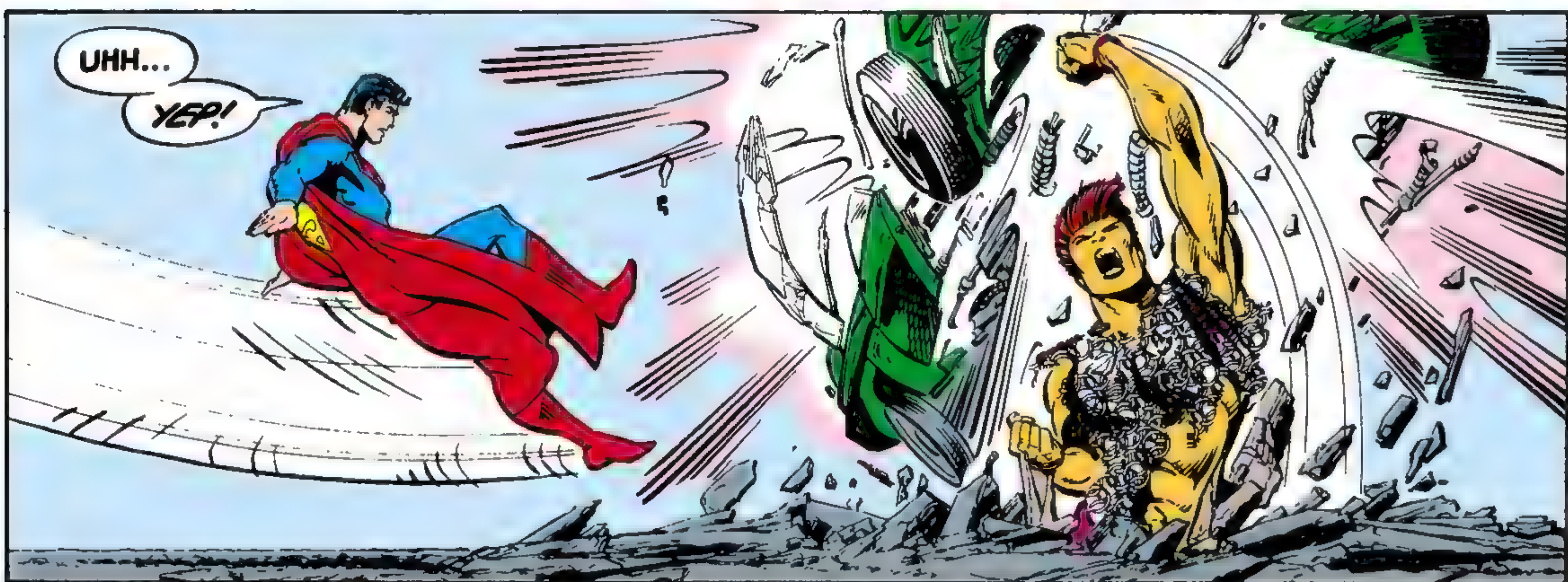
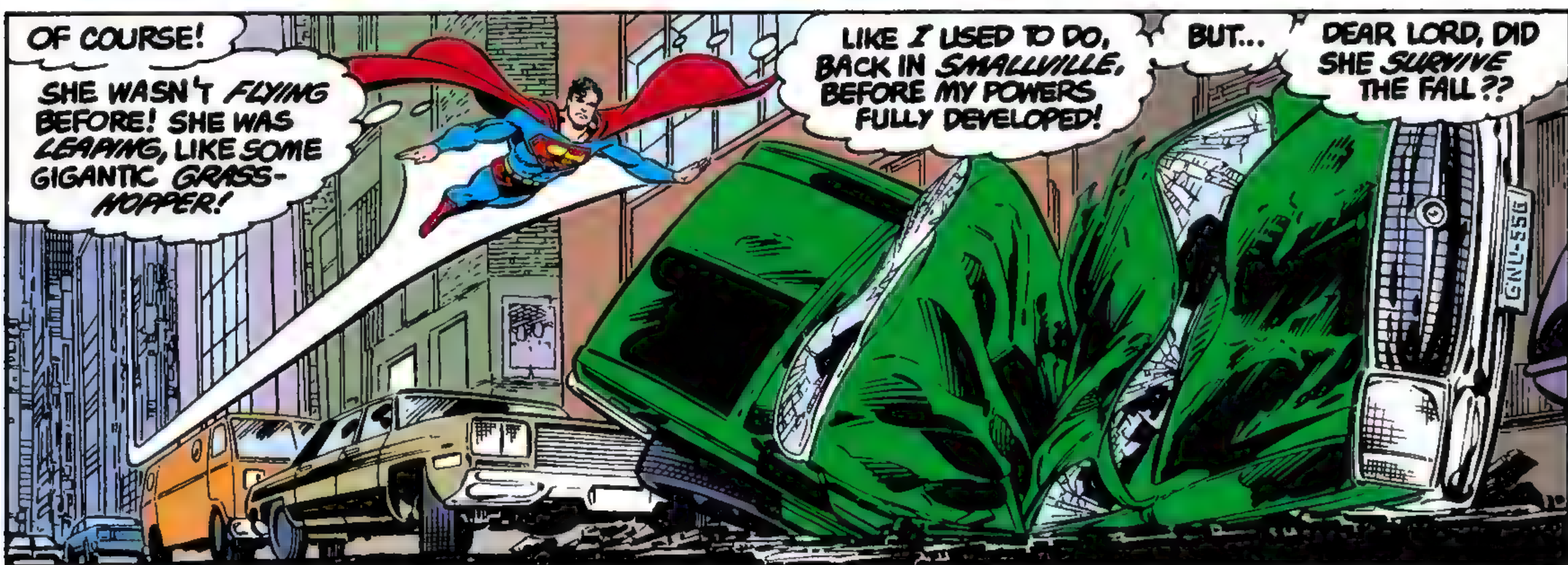
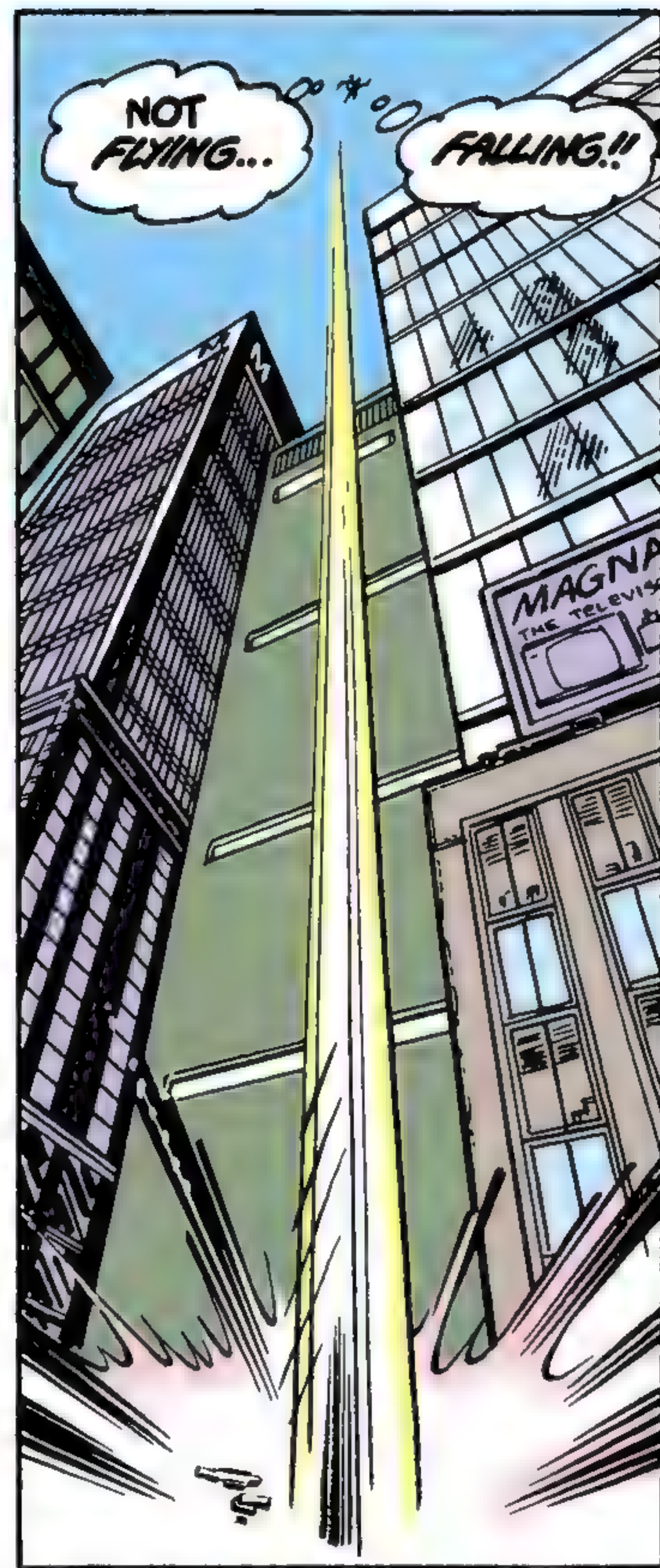
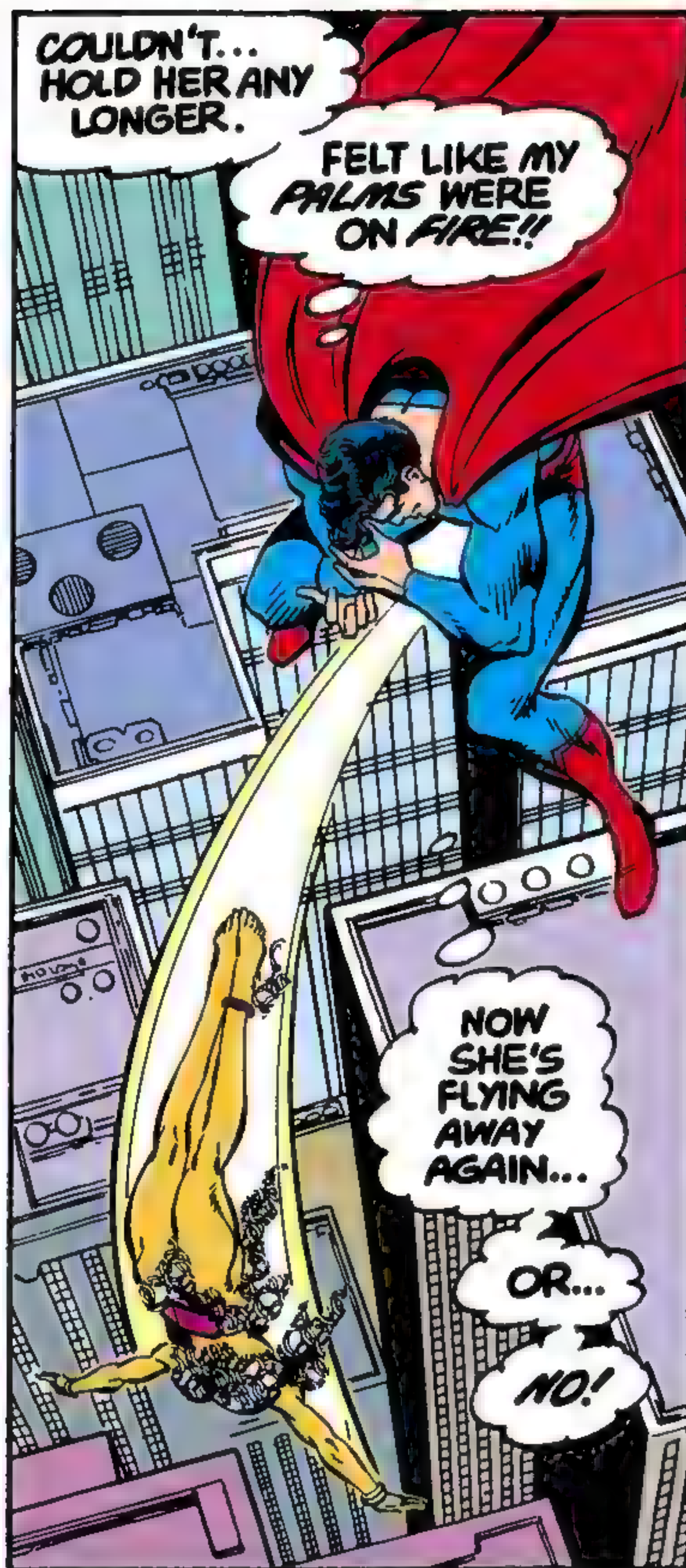
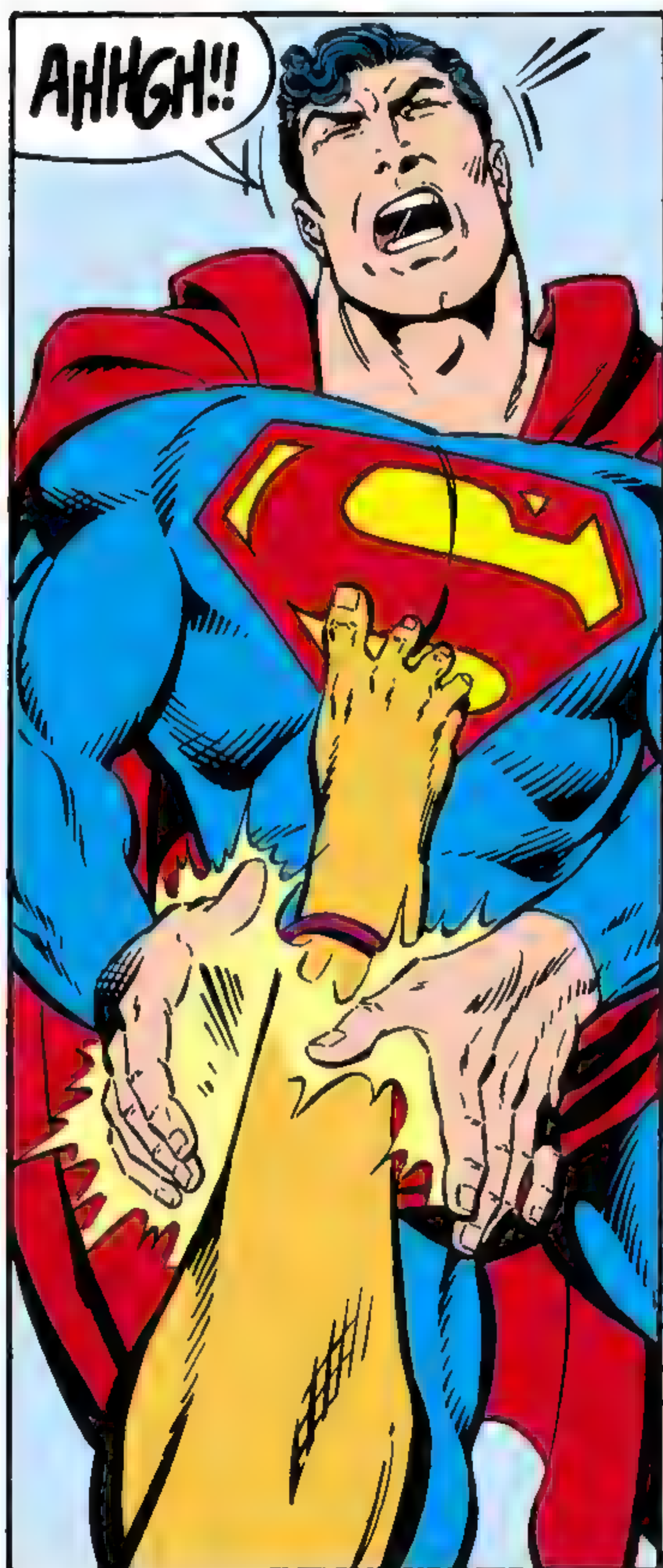


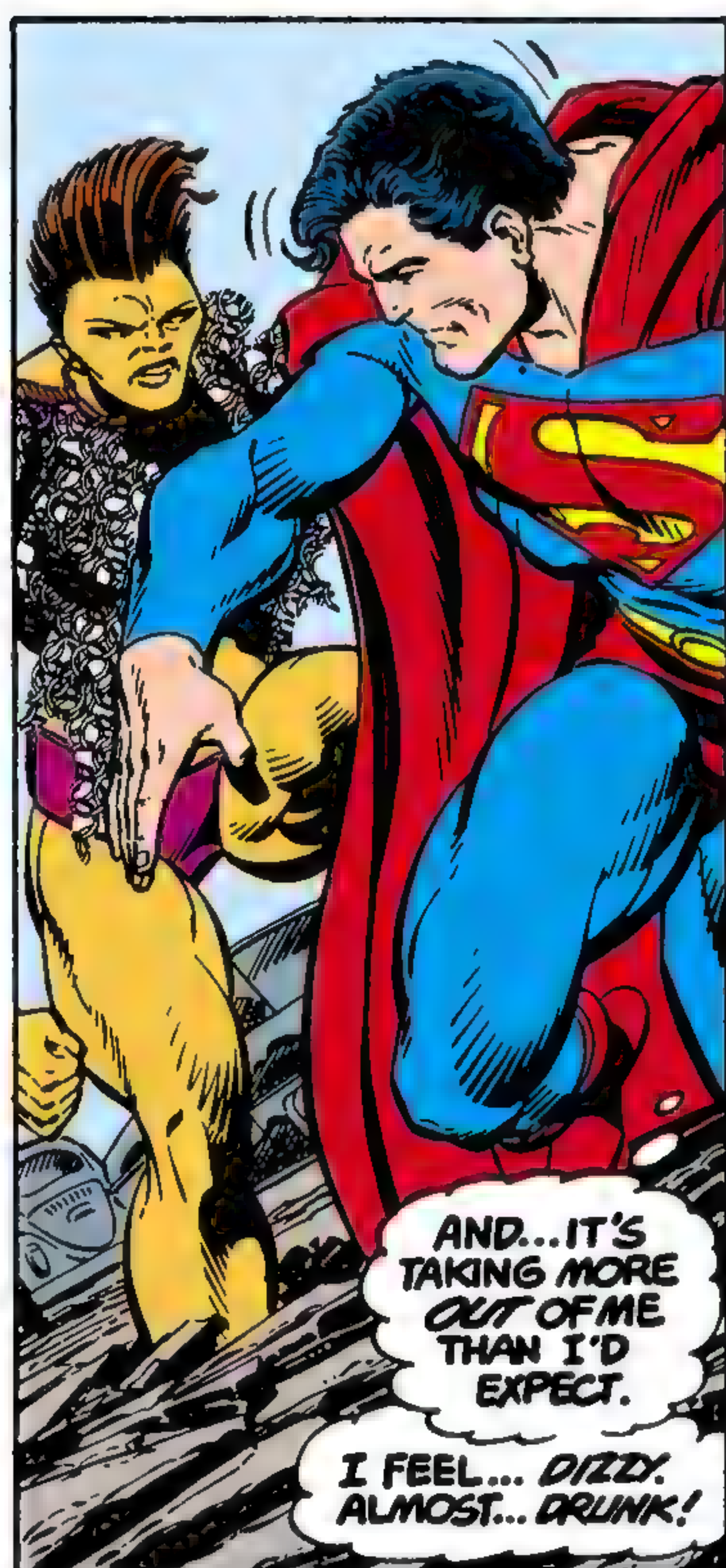
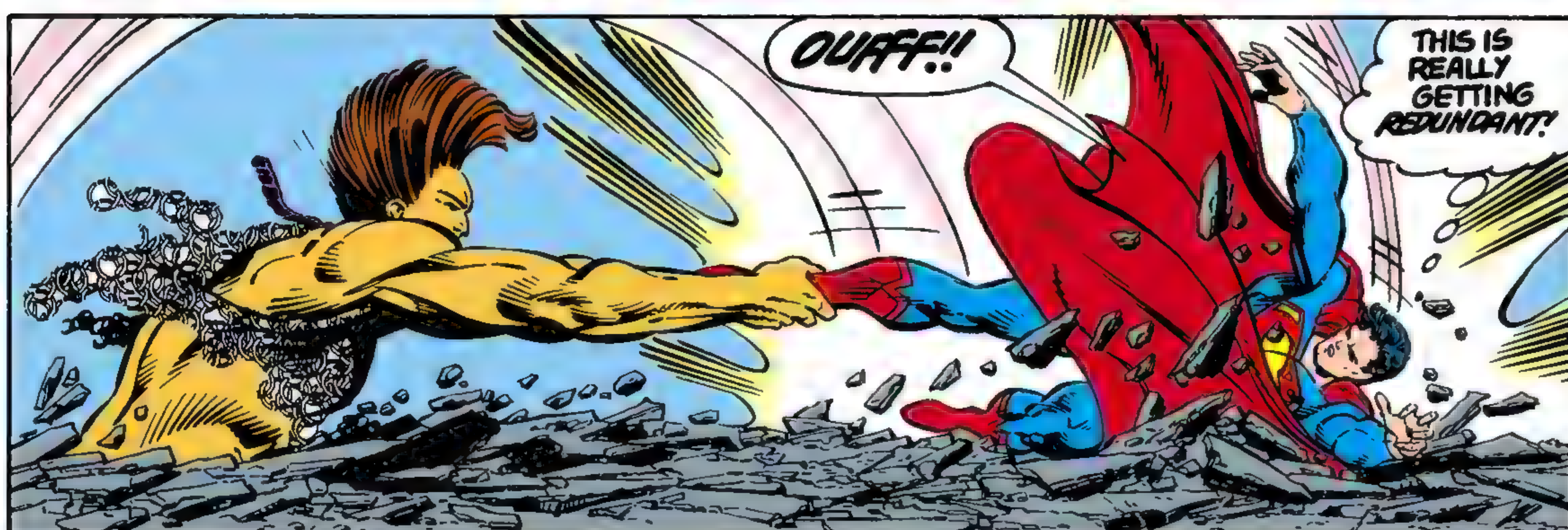




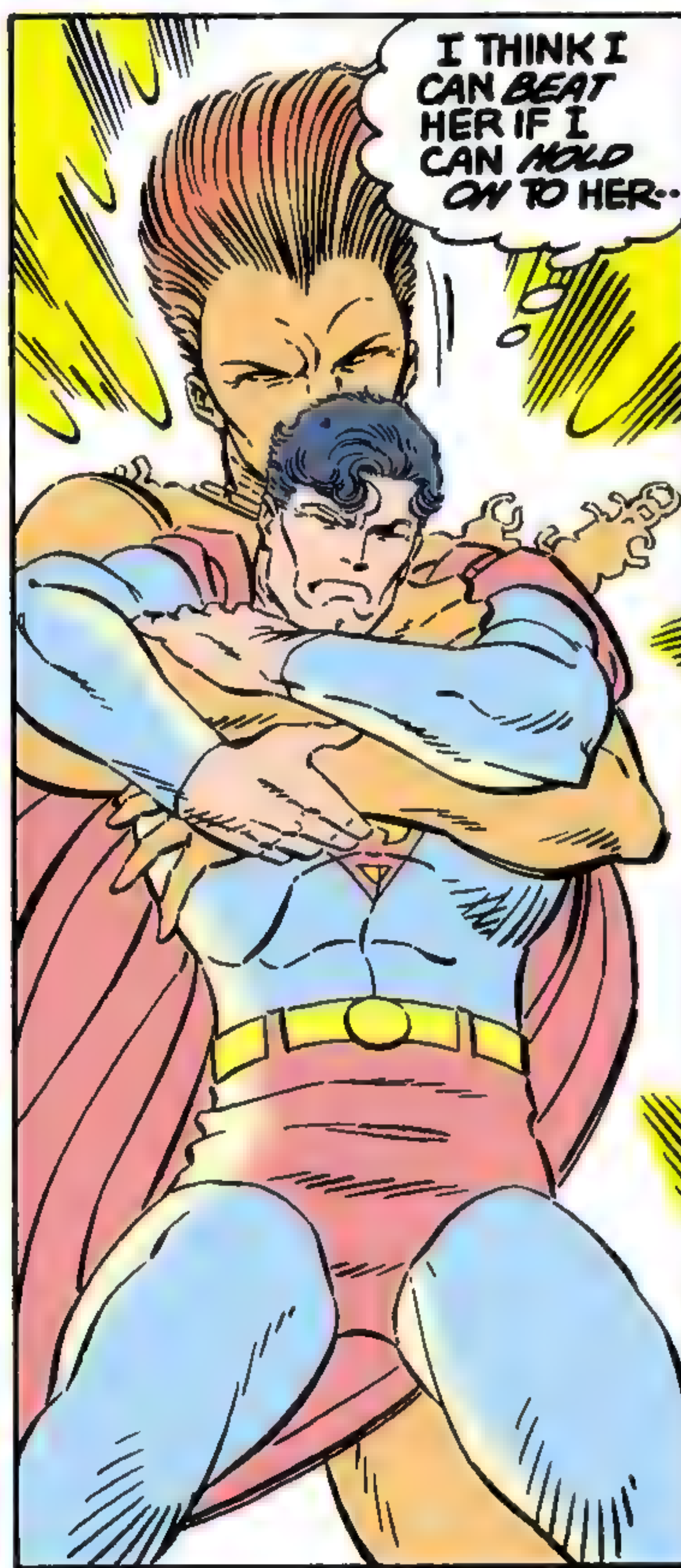
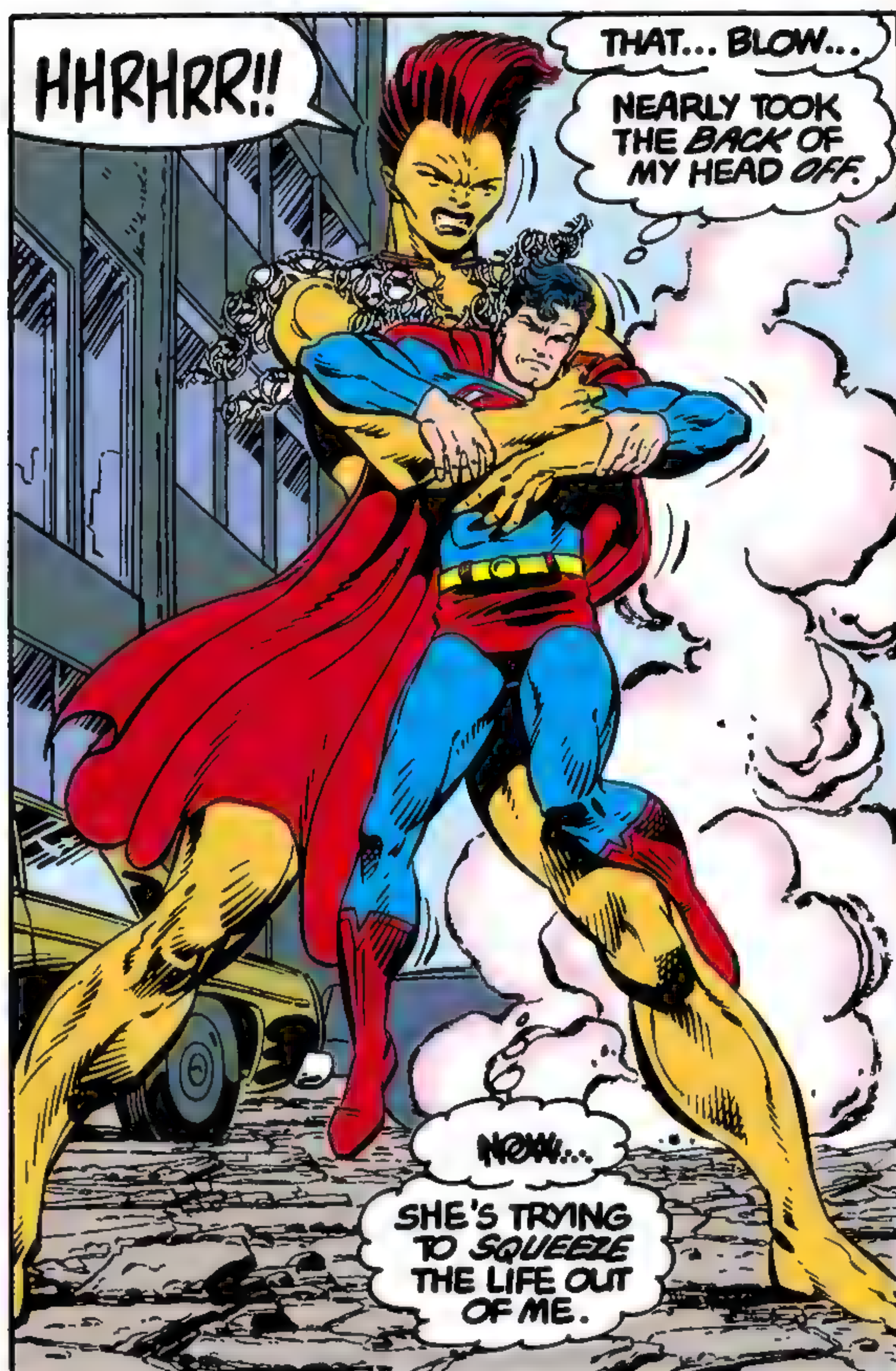


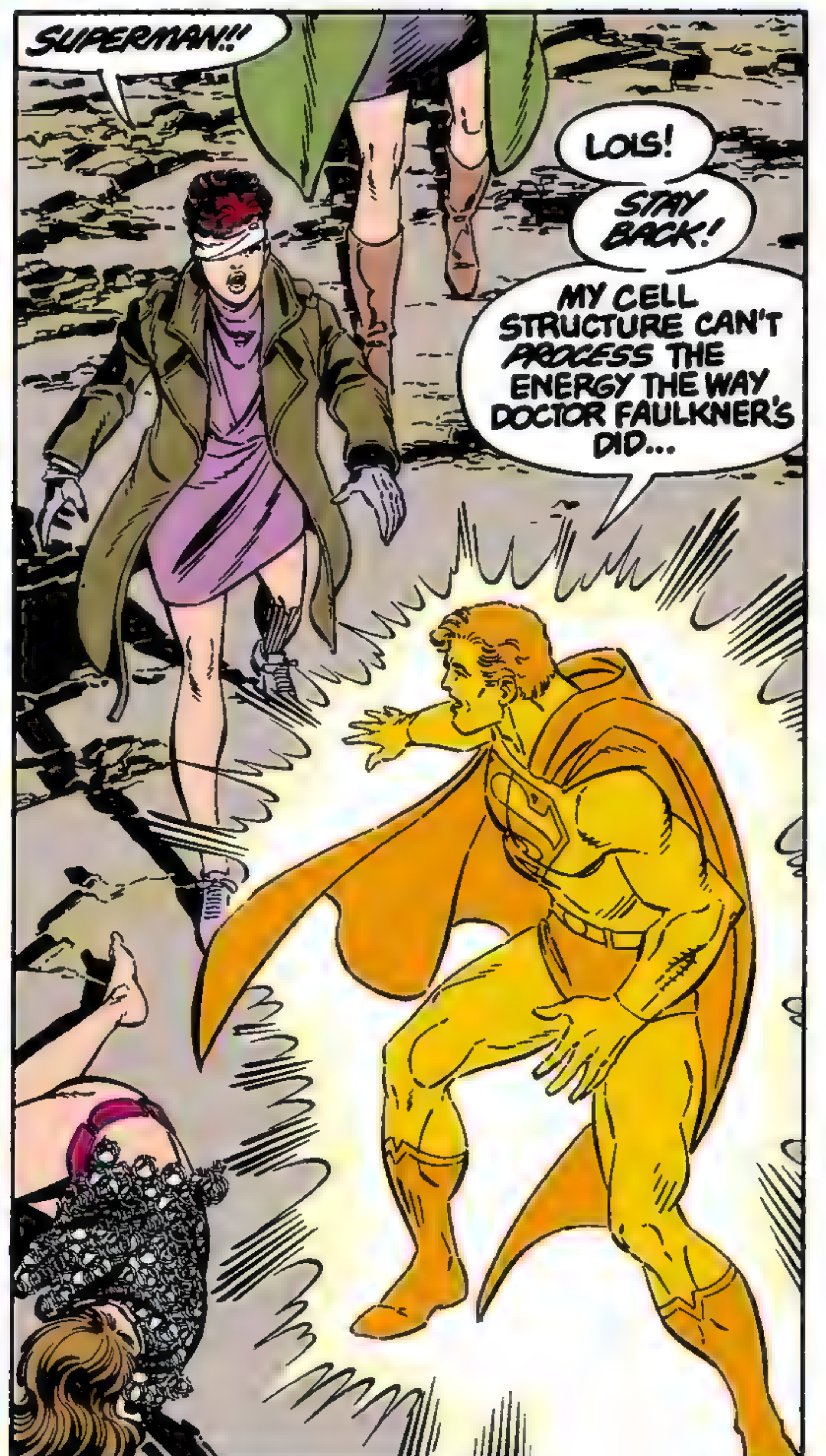
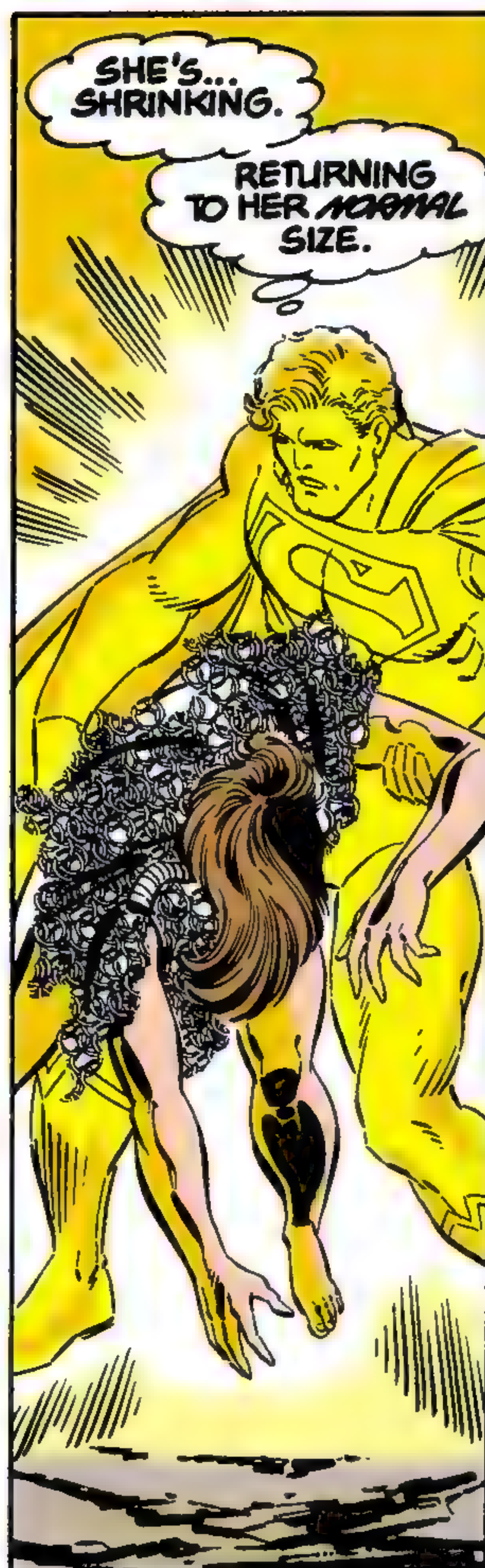


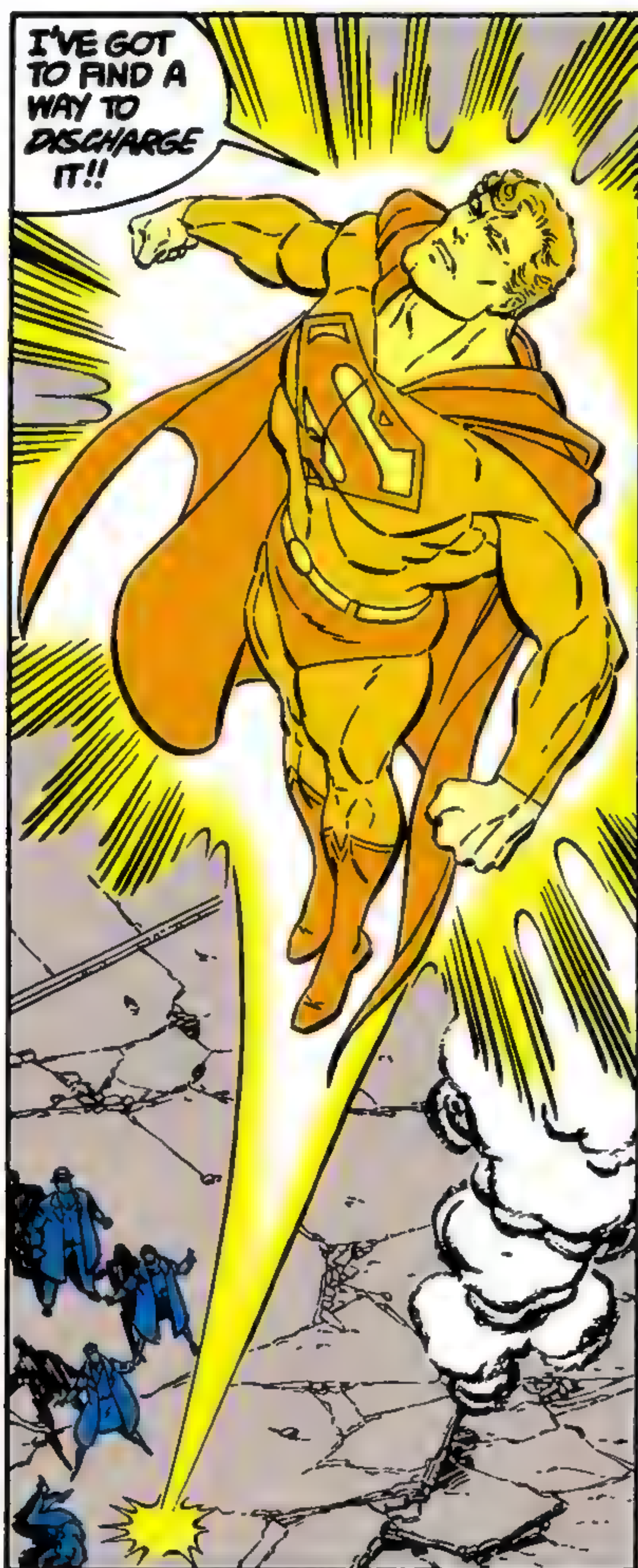




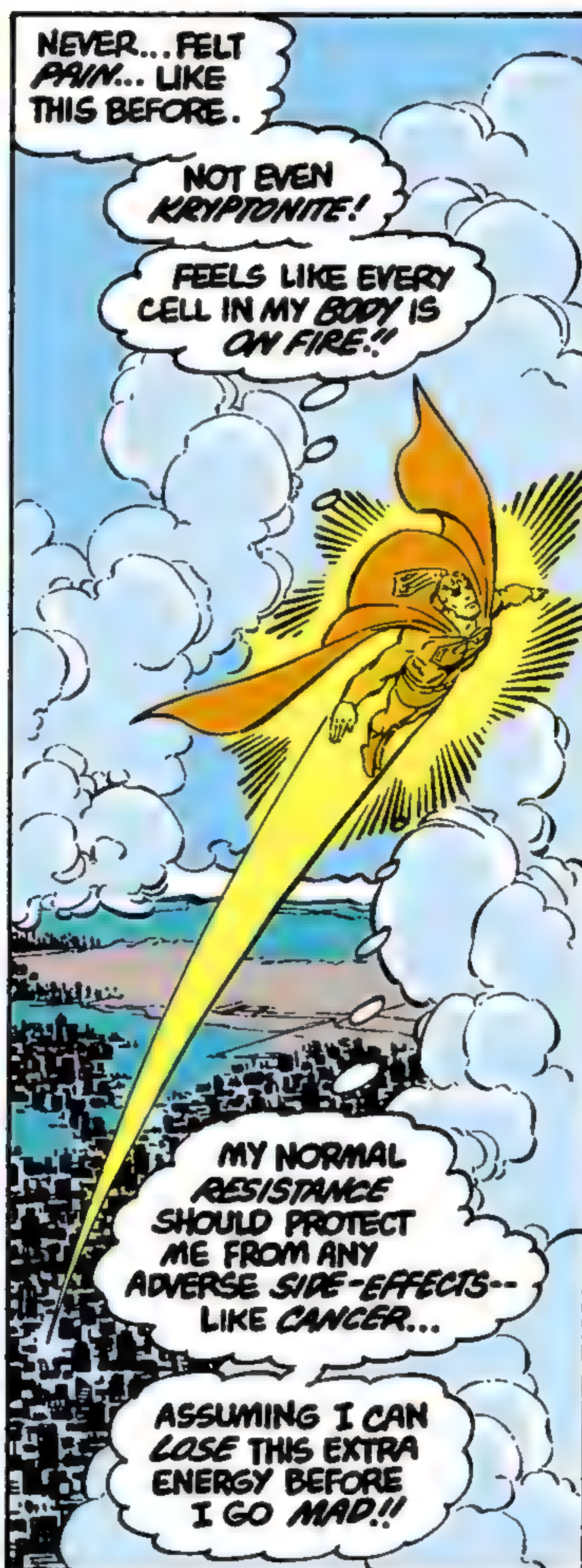








I'VE GOT
TO FIND A
WAY TO
DISCHARGE
IT!!



NEVER... FELT
PAIN... LIKE
THIS BEFORE.

NOT EVEN
KRYPTONITE!

FEELS LIKE EVERY
CELL IN MY BODY IS
ON FIRE!!

MY NORMAL
RESISTANCE
SHOULD PROTECT
ME FROM ANY
ADVERSE SIDE-EFFECTS--
LIKE CANCER...

ASSUMING I CAN
LOSE THIS EXTRA
ENERGY BEFORE
I GO MAD!!



I NEED
SOMETHING TO
BLAST THE
ENERGY OUT
OF ME.

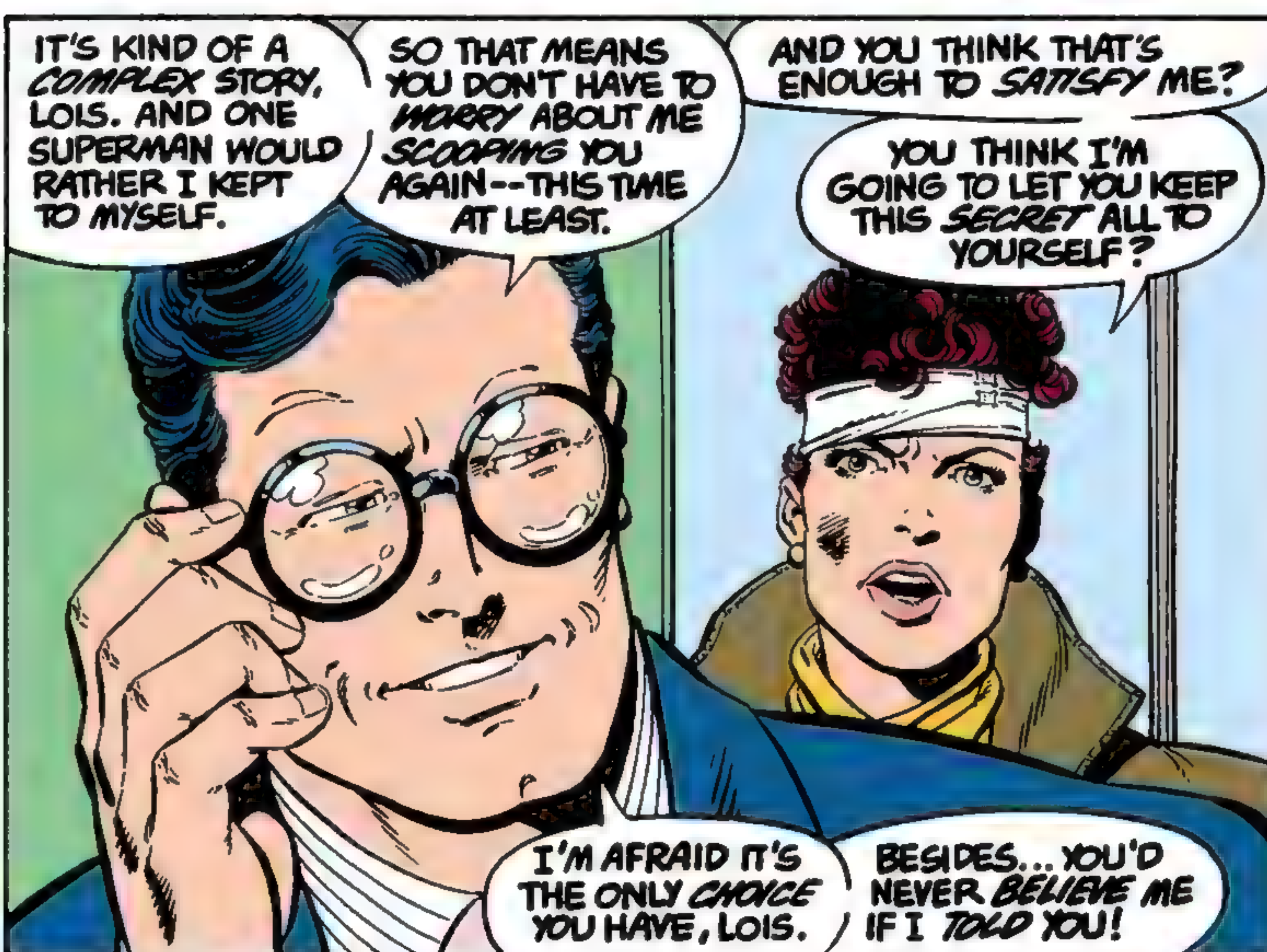
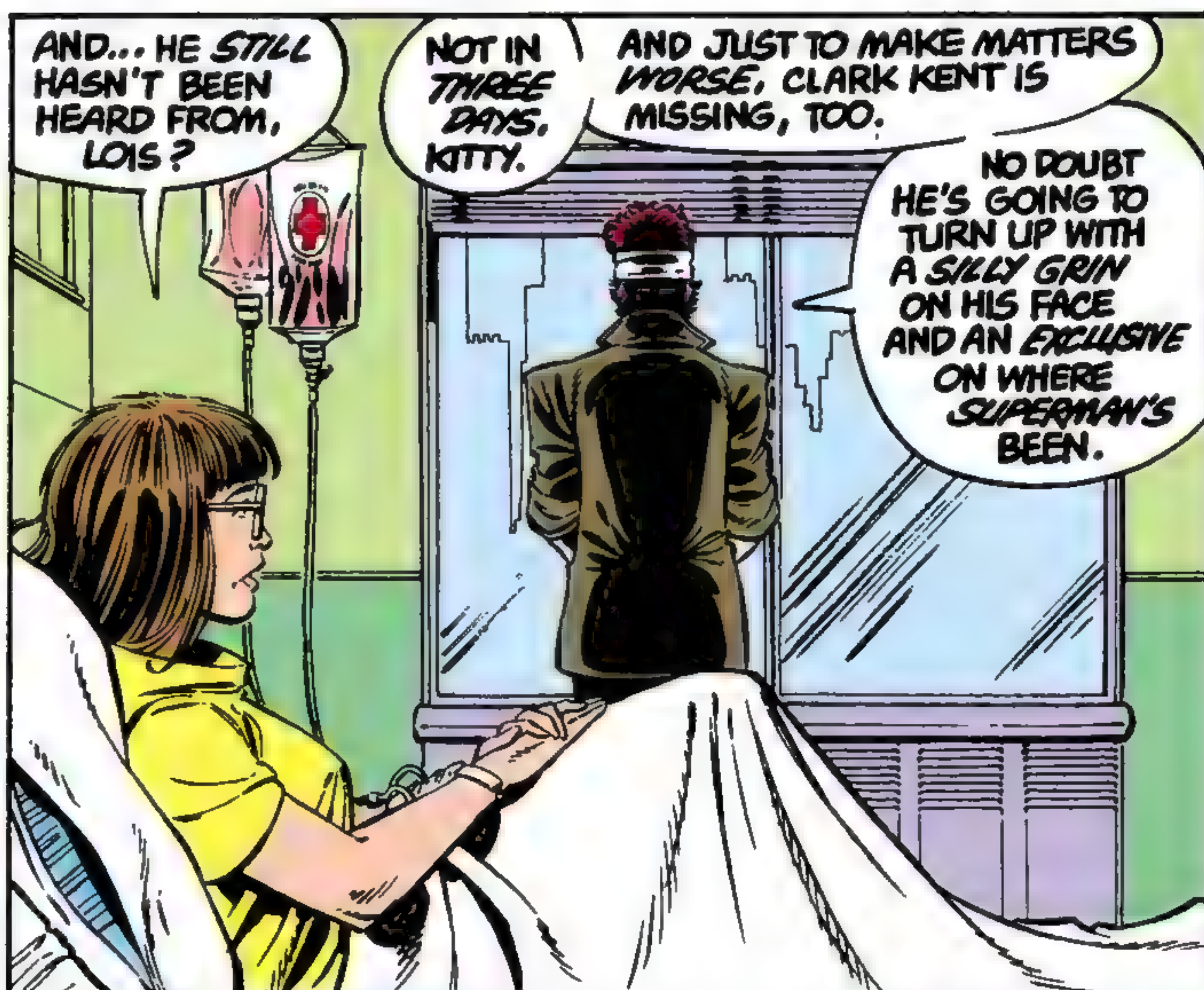
AND THAT
BIG THUNDER-
HEAD RAGING
OVER KANSAS
LOOKS LIKE
JUST WHAT
THE DOCTOR
ORDERED!



WITH MY SUPER-SENSES
BOOSTED BY THE EXTRA
ENERGY I'M CARRYING,
THE LIGHTNING COURSE
THROUGH THIS CLOUD
SEEMS TO BE MOVING
IN SLOW-MOTION.

MAKING IT EASIER
FOR ME TO GET IN THE
PATH OF ONE OF
THOSE --





SUPERMAN

FUTURE SHOCK

Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

John Byrne

STORY & PICTURES

Tom Zuko. John Costanza. Michael & Andrew

coloring

lettering

carlin

Helper

EDITORS

Dedicated to the memory of
Edmund Hamilton

SMALL COUNTY,
KANSAS. THE FIRST
WEEK OF SPRING...

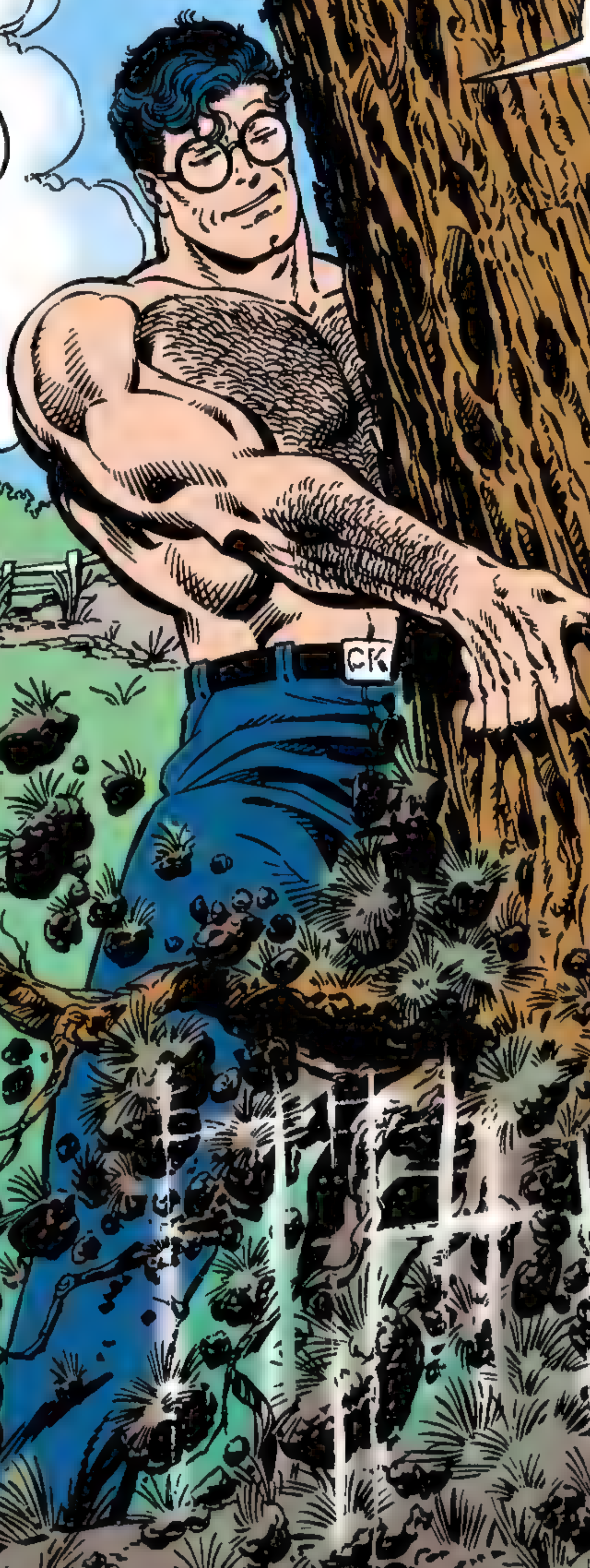
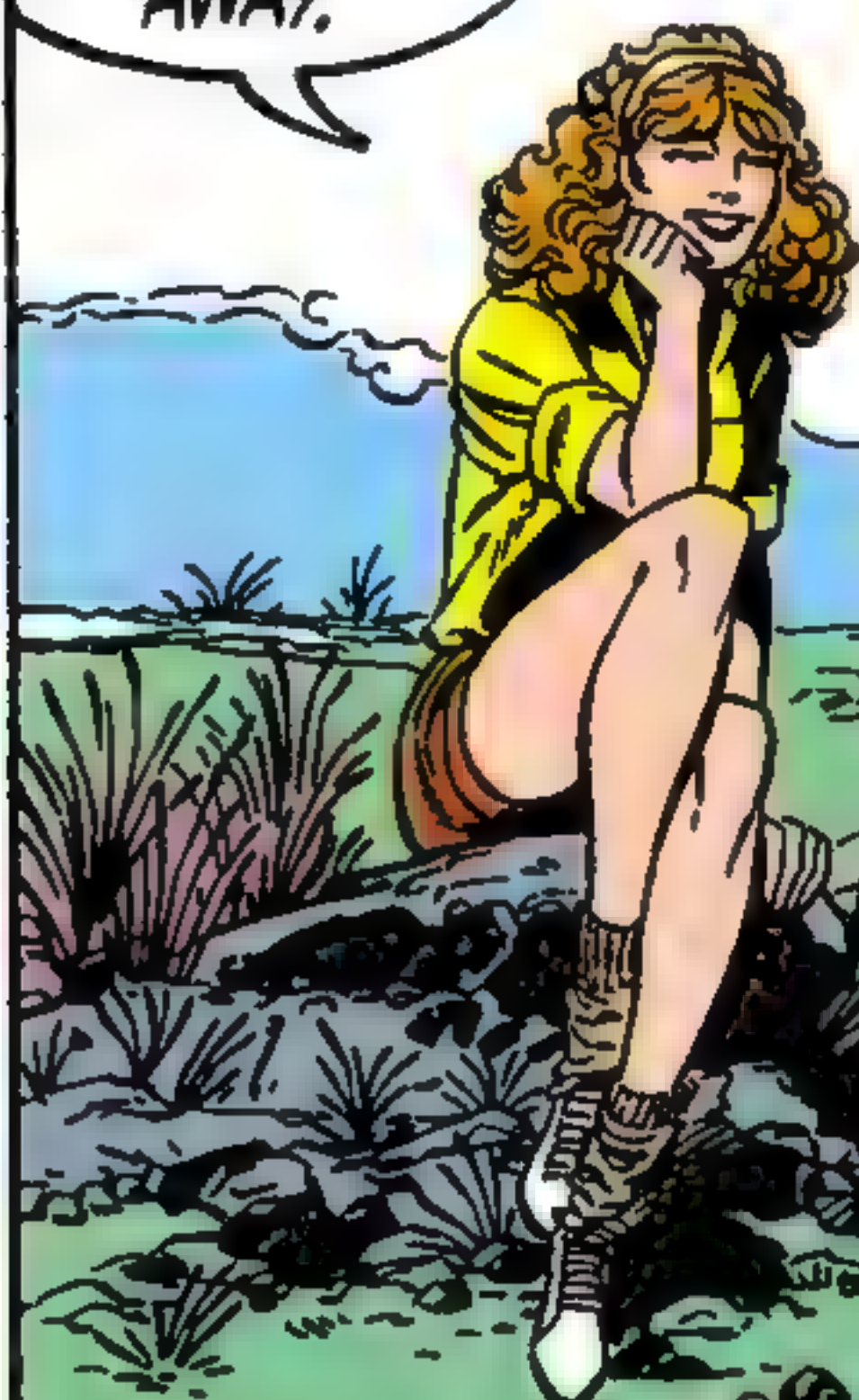
YOU KNOW, I'LL
PROBABLY NEVER
GET USED TO IT,
CLARK--

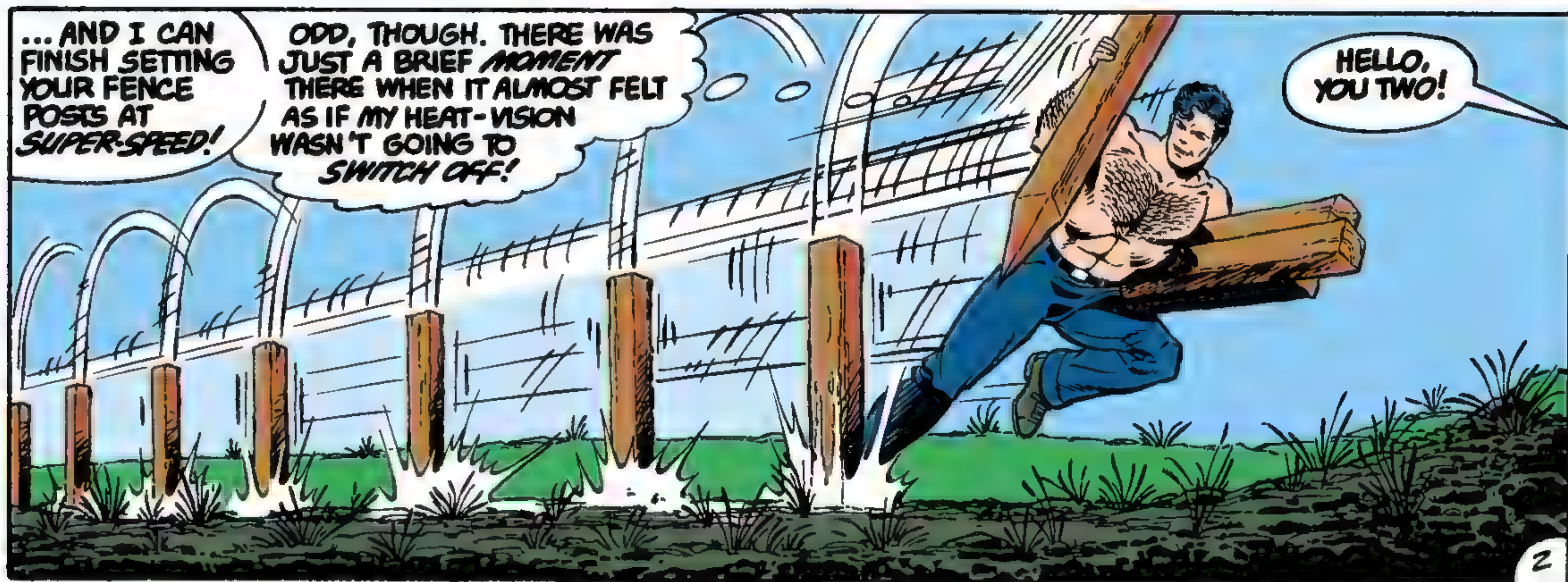
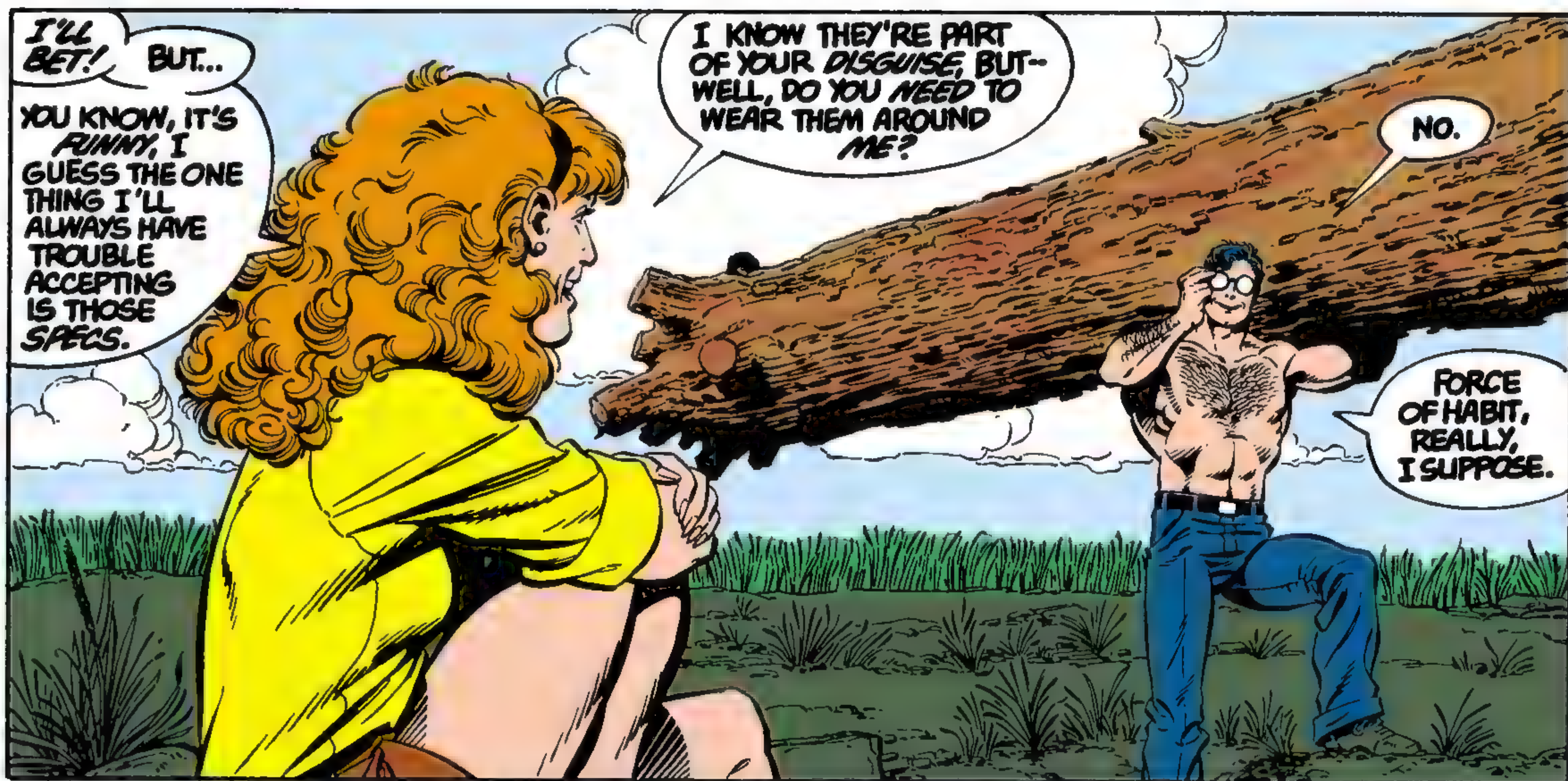
--I'VE KNOWN FOR YEARS
NOW THAT YOU'RE SUPERMAN,
BUT EVERY TIME I SEE YOU
USE YOUR POWERS...

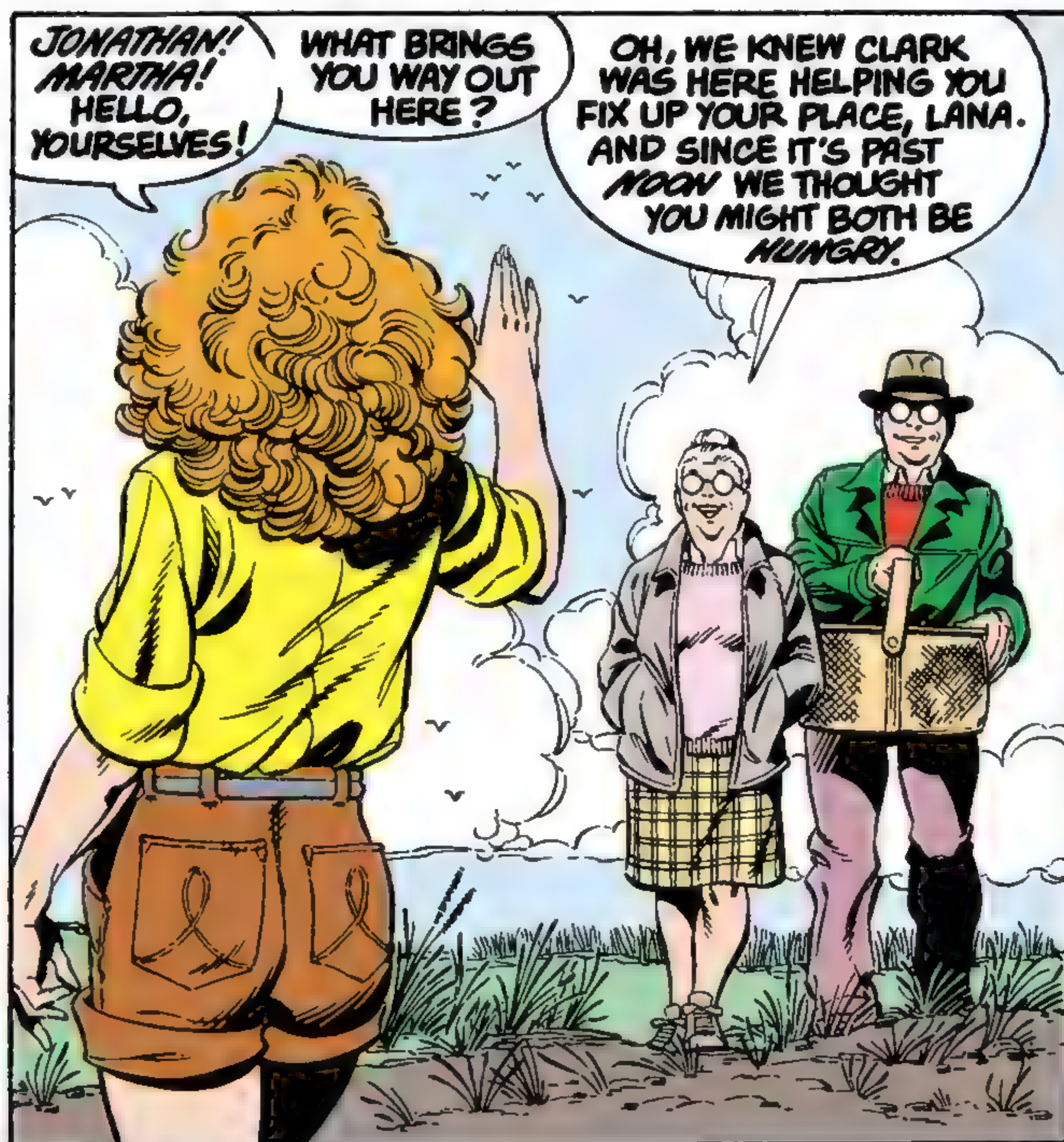
WELL, IT
JUST TAKES
MY BREATH
AWAY.

I'LL HAVE
TO CONFESS, IT
AMAZES ME
SOMETIMES,
TOO, LANA.

IT CAN BE A
PRETTY HEADY
EXPERIENCE, REALIZING
NO ONE ELSE IN THE
WORLD CAN DO ALL
THE THINGS I CAN
DO.



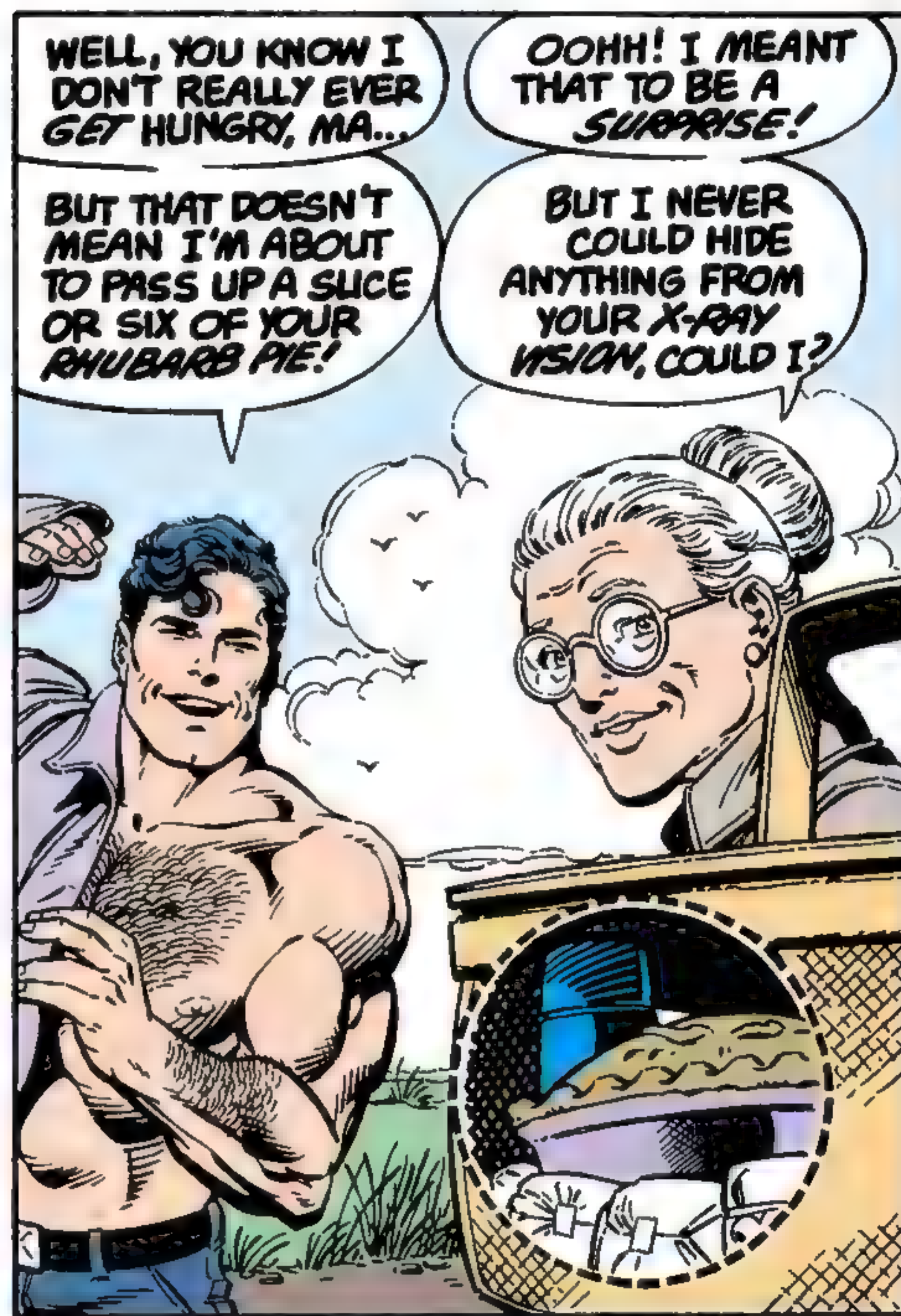




JONATHAN!
MARTHA!
HELLO,
YOURSELVES!

WHAT BRINGS
YOU WAY OUT
HERE?

OH, WE KNEW CLARK
WAS HERE HELPING YOU
FIX UP YOUR PLACE, LANA.
AND SINCE IT'S PAST
NOON WE THOUGHT
YOU MIGHT BOTH BE
HUNGRY!

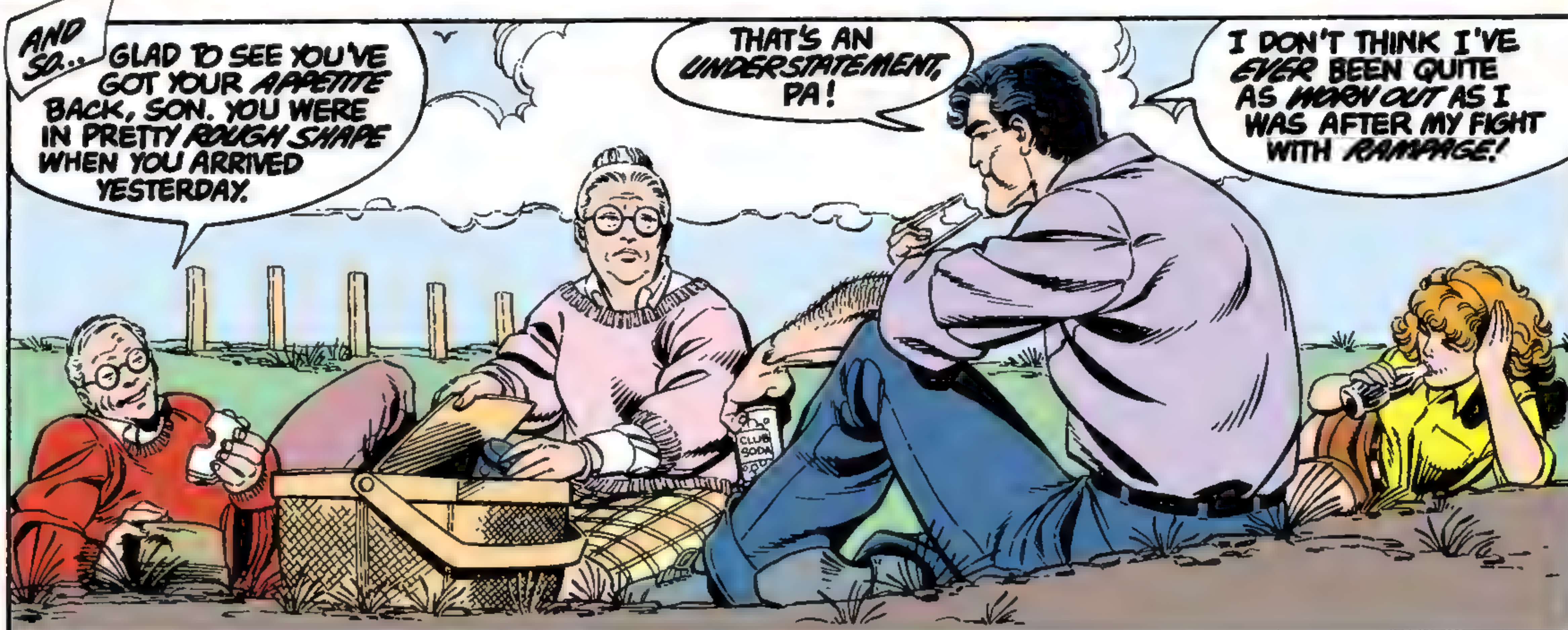


WELL, YOU KNOW I
DON'T REALLY EVER
GET HUNGRY, MA...

OOHH! I MEANT
THAT TO BE A
SURPRISE!

BUT THAT DOESN'T
MEAN I'M ABOUT
TO PASS UP A SLICE
OR SIX OF YOUR
RHUBARB PIE!

BUT I NEVER
COULD HIDE
ANYTHING FROM
YOUR X-RAY
VISION, COULD I?



AND SO... GLAD TO SEE YOU'VE
GOT YOUR APPETITE
BACK, SON. YOU WERE
IN PRETTY ROUGH SHAPE
WHEN YOU ARRIVED
YESTERDAY.

THAT'S AN
UNDERSTATEMENT,
PA!

I DON'T THINK I'VE
EVER BEEN QUITE
AS WORK OUT AS I
WAS AFTER MY FIGHT
WITH RAMPAGE!



HAVING TO DISCHARGE ALL
THE BIO-ENERGY I ABSORBED
FROM HER REALLY TOOK IT
OUT OF... ME...

...HMMM...?

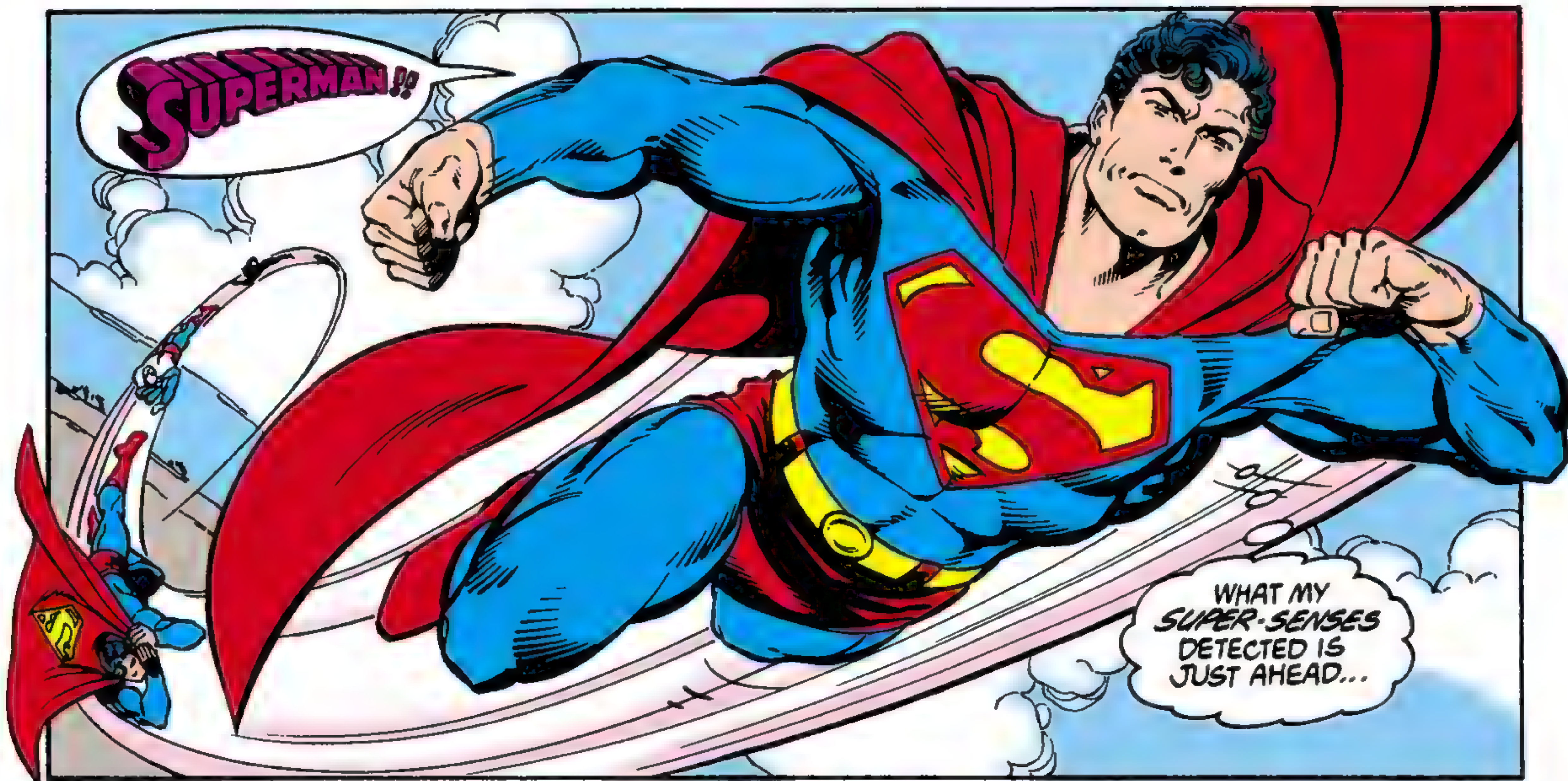


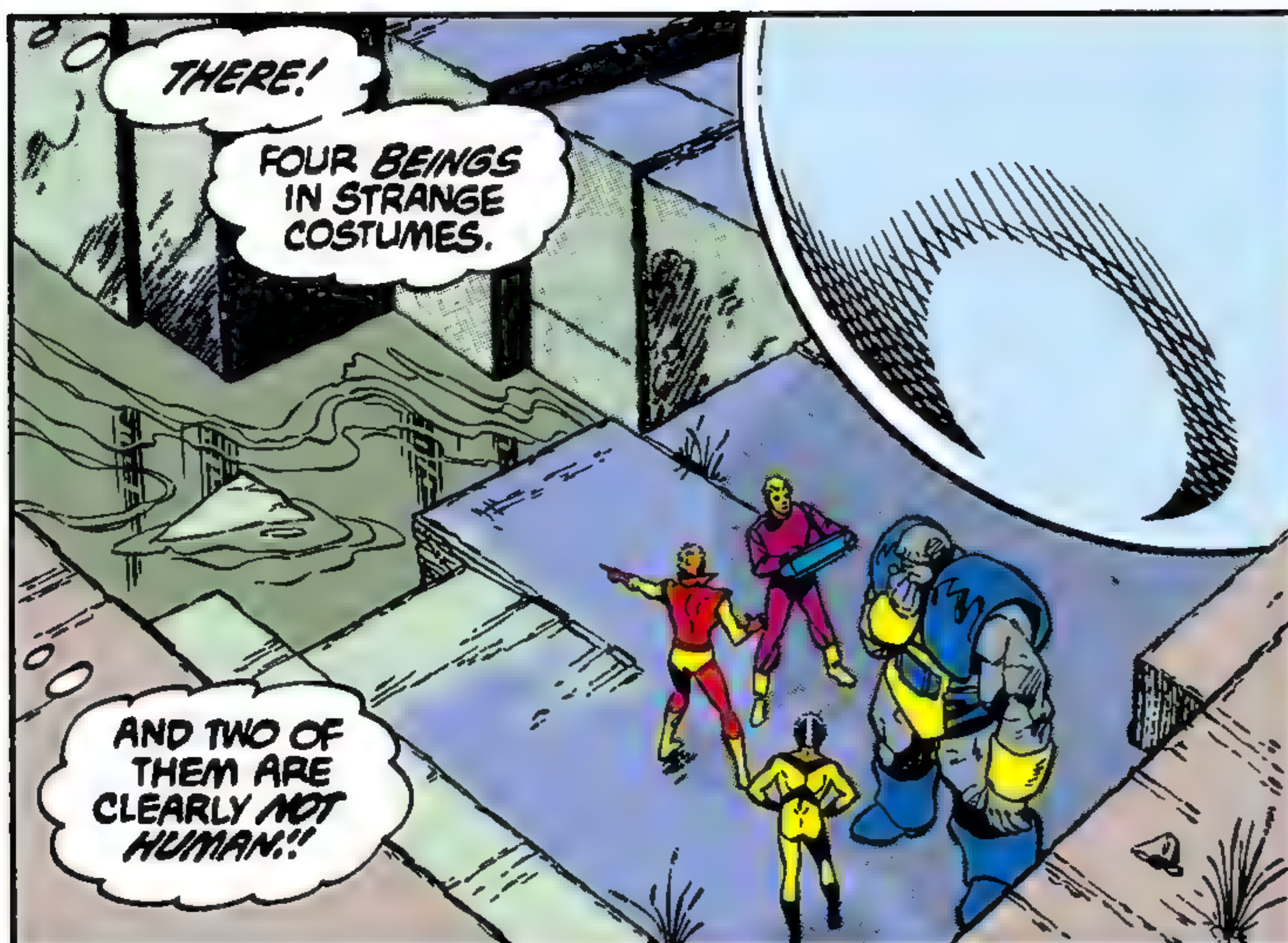
SON...?

WHAT
IS IT?

SOMETHING HAPPENING
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF
SMALLVILLE, MA.

SOMETHING THAT
LOOKS LIKE A
JOB FOR...





THERE!

FOUR BEINGS
IN STRANGE
COSTUMES.

AND TWO OF
THEM ARE
CLEARLY NOT
HUMAN!!



THAT BUBBLE
THEY'RE STANDING
BESIDE MUST BE
SOME KIND OF
SPACE SHIP!

BUT... I DIDN'T
DETECT IT
COMING DOWN
THROUGH THE
ATMOSPHERE.
IT WAS SUDDENLY
JUST THERE.

I
WONDER...

EH??



OKAY, BRAINIAC,
EXPLAIN TO ME
AGAIN WHY WE'VE
STOPPED...

LOOK
OUT!!

IT'S
SUPERBOY!!

HE
FOLLOWED
US!

HEY!!



GOOD
LORD!!

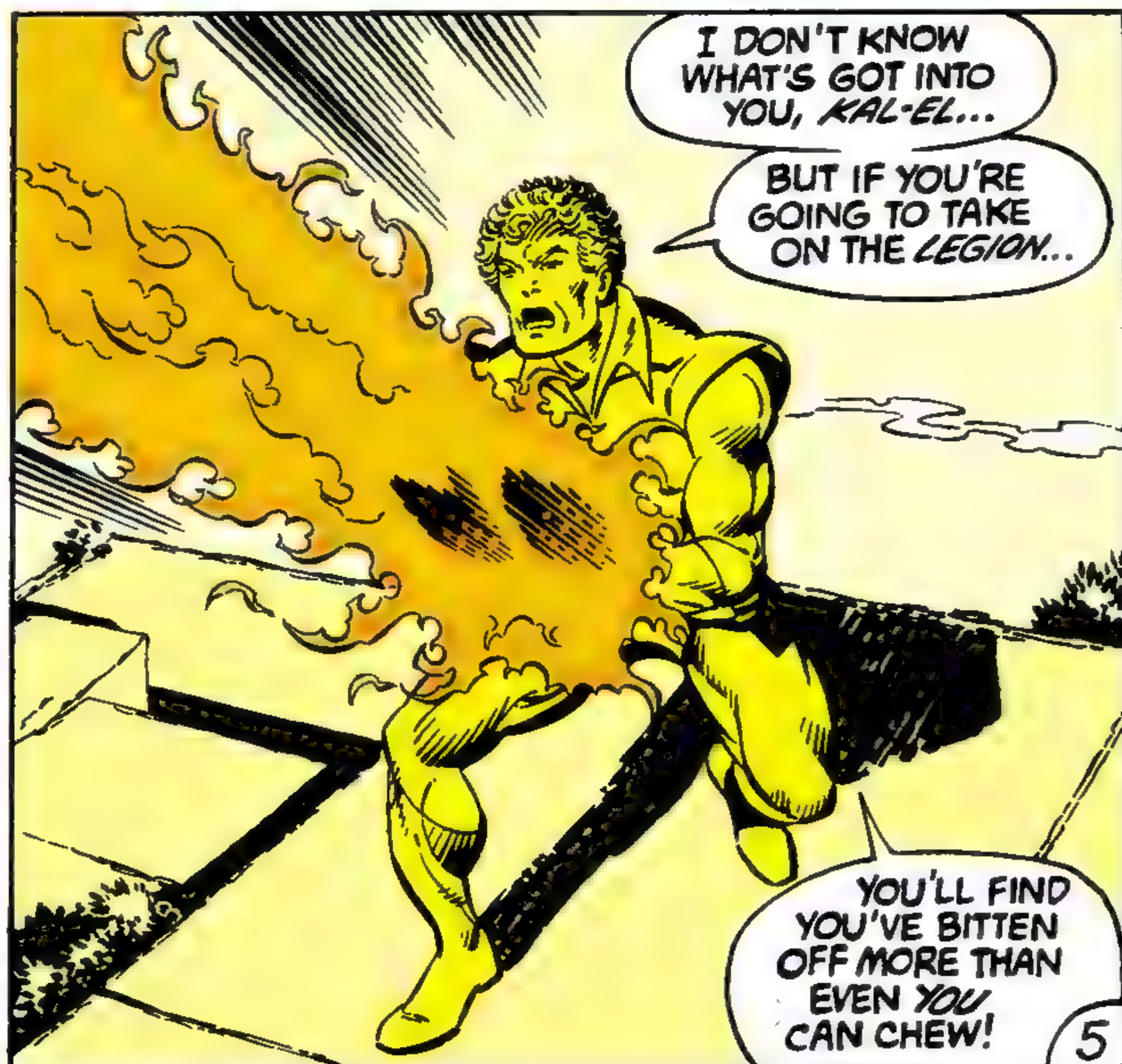
MY
HEAT-
VISION!!

IT FIRED
SPONTAN-
EOUSLY!!

WITHOUT
MY
CONSCIOUS
CONTROL!

AND BECAUSE THE
BEAMS WENT IN THE
DIRECTION I WAS
LOOKING...

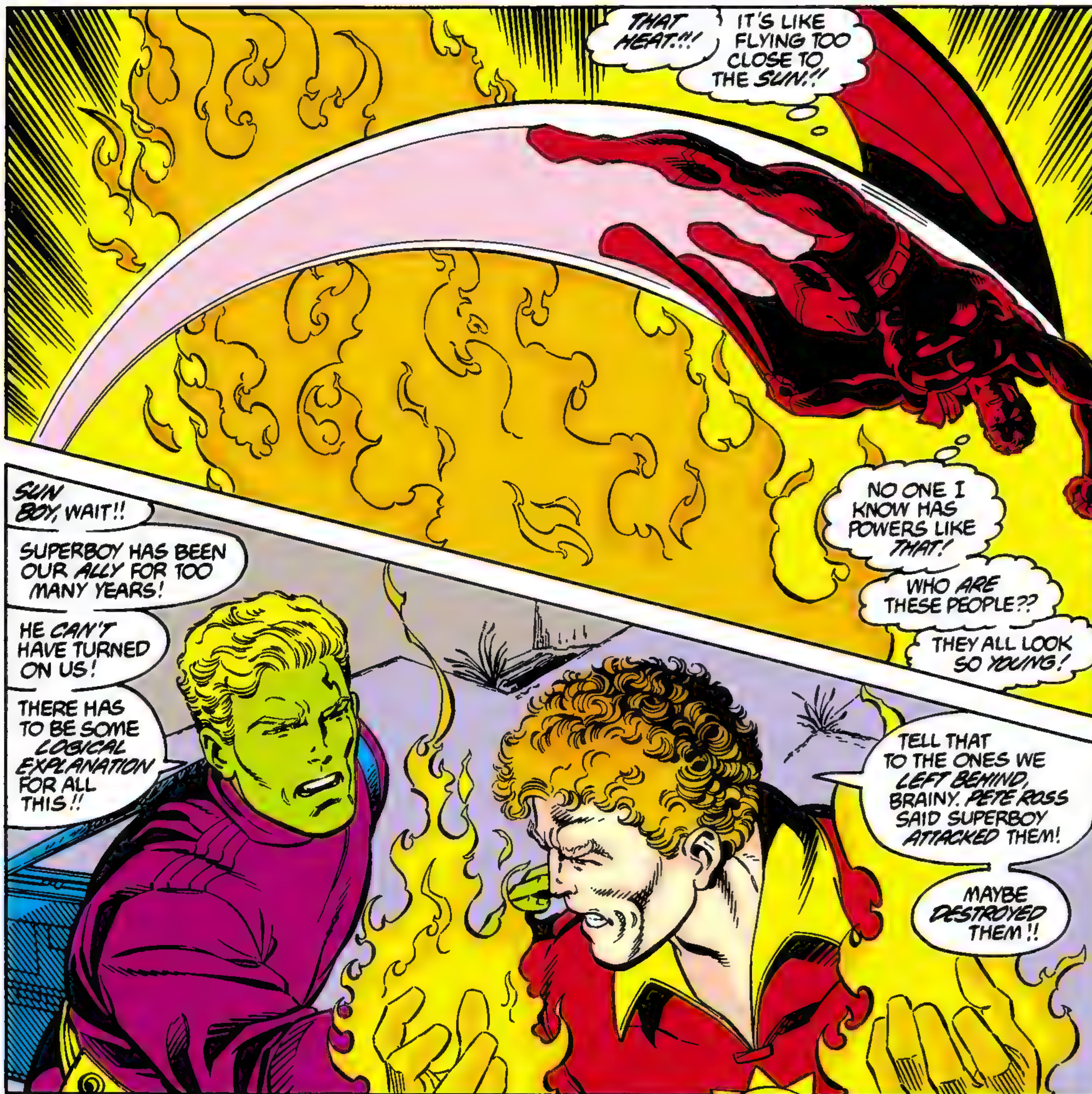
THOSE ALIENS
TOOK IT FOR AN
ATTACK!!



I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S GOT INTO
YOU, KAL-EL...

BUT IF YOU'RE
GOING TO TAKE
ON THE LEGION...

YOU'LL FIND
YOU'VE BITTEN
OFF MORE THAN
EVEN YOU
CAN CHEW!



THAT
HEAT!!!

IT'S LIKE
FLYING TOO
CLOSE TO
THE SUN!!

SUN
BOY, WAIT!!

SUPERBOY HAS BEEN
OUR ALLY FOR TOO
MANY YEARS!

HE CAN'T
HAVE TURNED
ON US!

THERE HAS
TO BE SOME
LOGICAL
EXPLANATION
FOR ALL
THIS!!

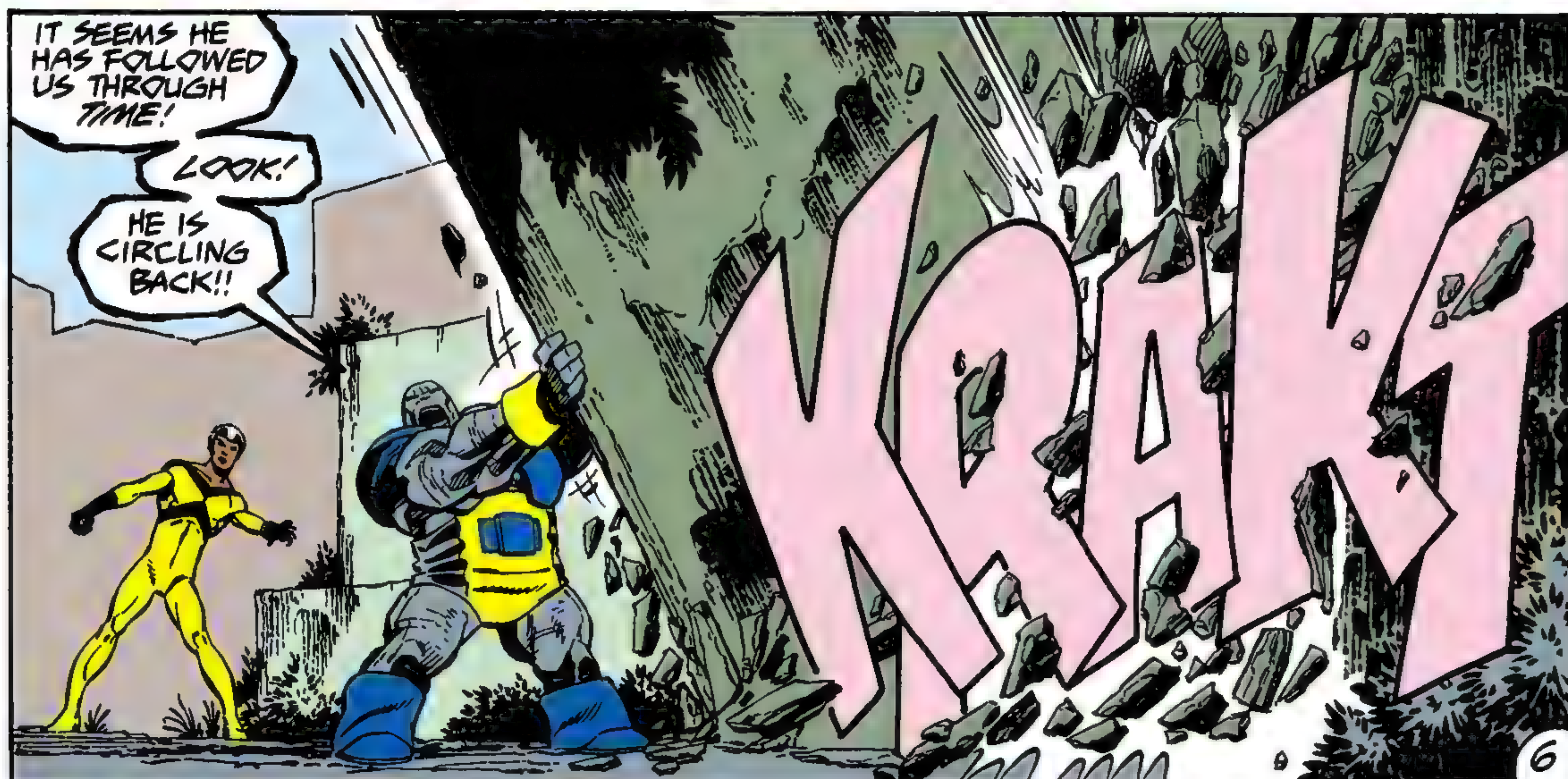
NO ONE I
KNOW HAS
POWERS LIKE
THAT!

WHO ARE
THESE PEOPLE??

THEY ALL LOOK
SO YOUNG!

TELL THAT
TO THE ONES WE
LEFT BEHIND,
BRAINY. PETE ROSS
SAID SUPERBOY
ATTACKED THEM!

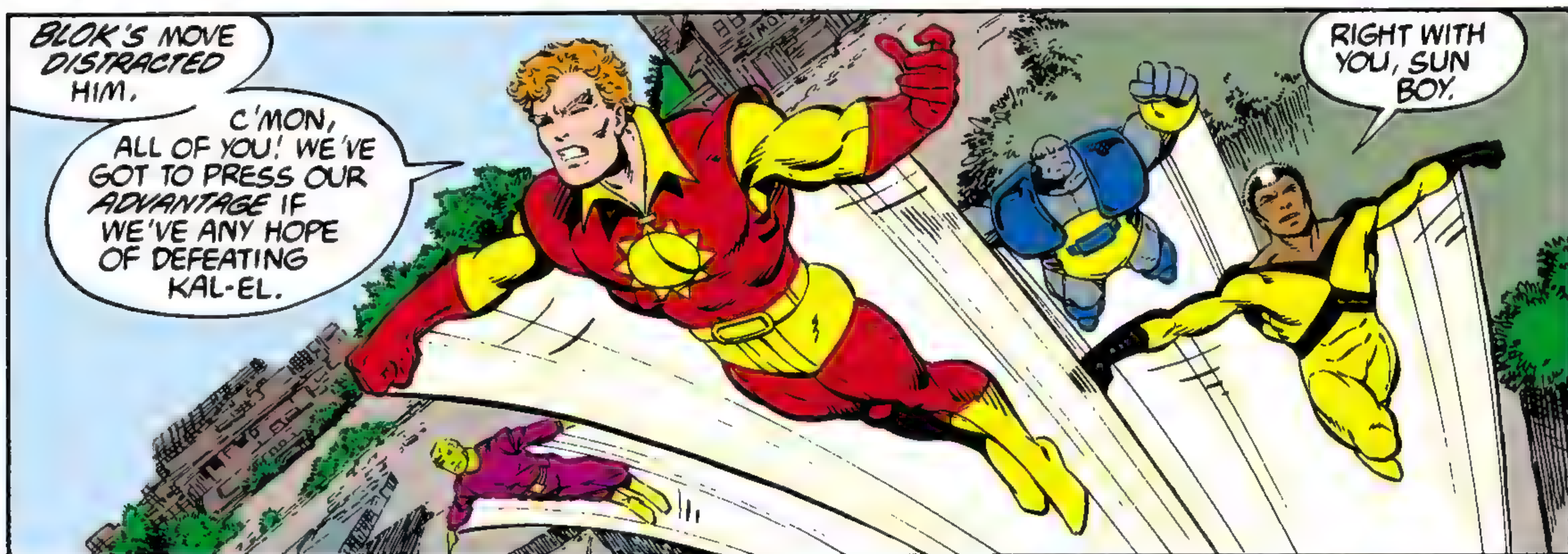
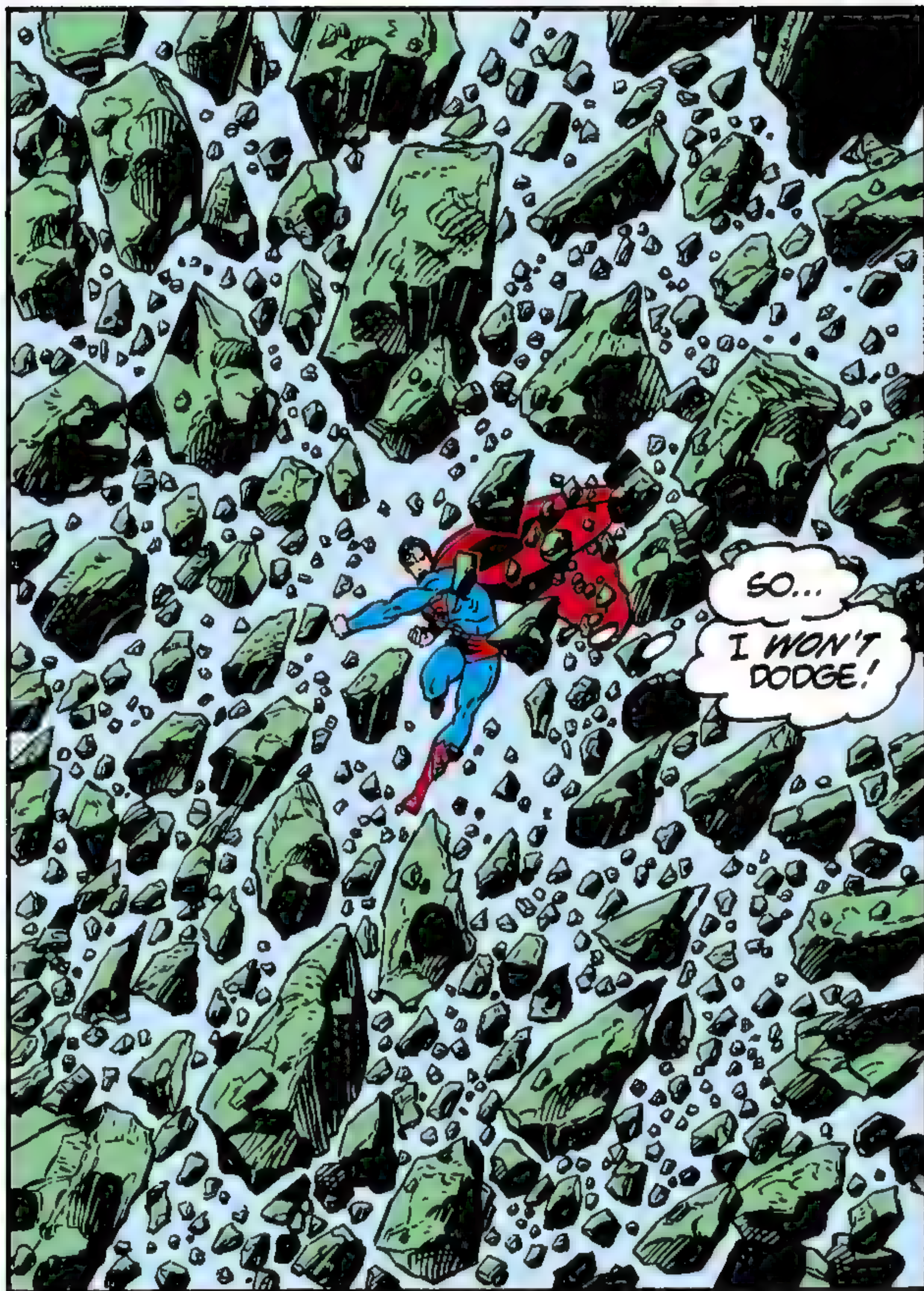
MAYBE
DESTROYED
THEM!!

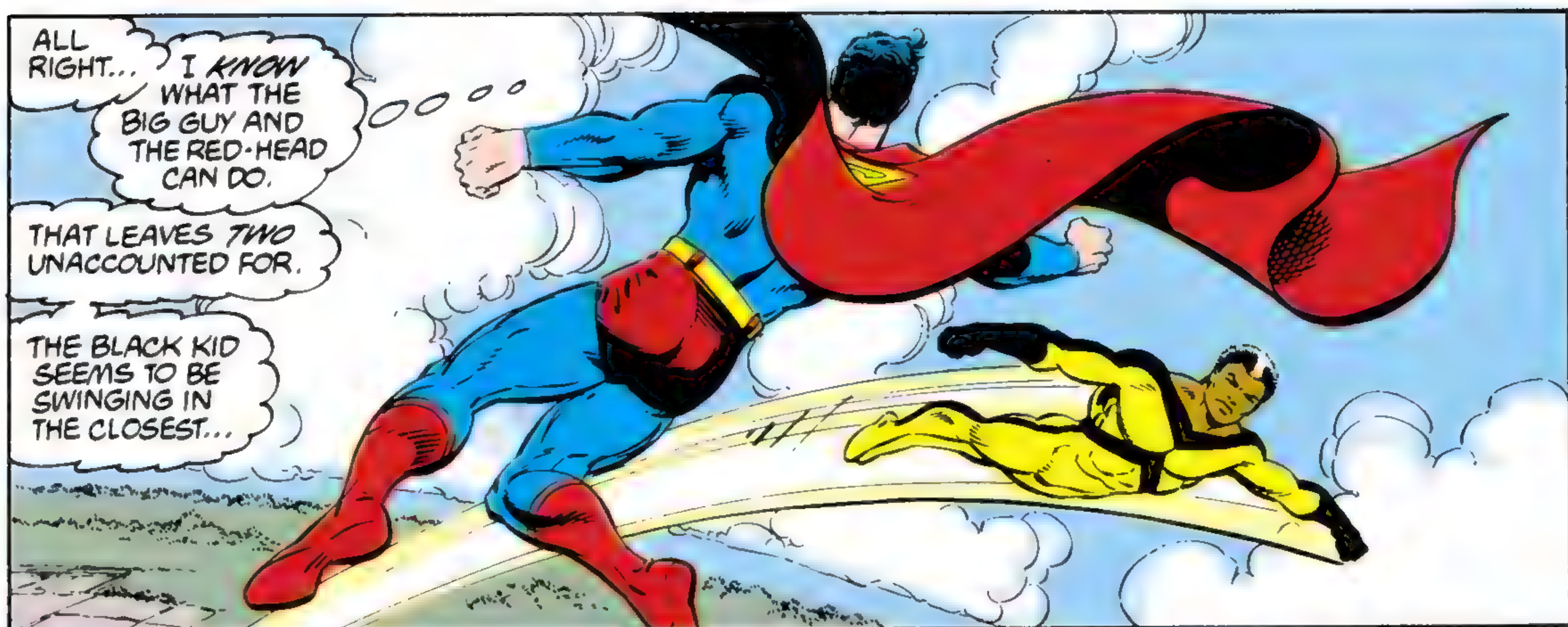


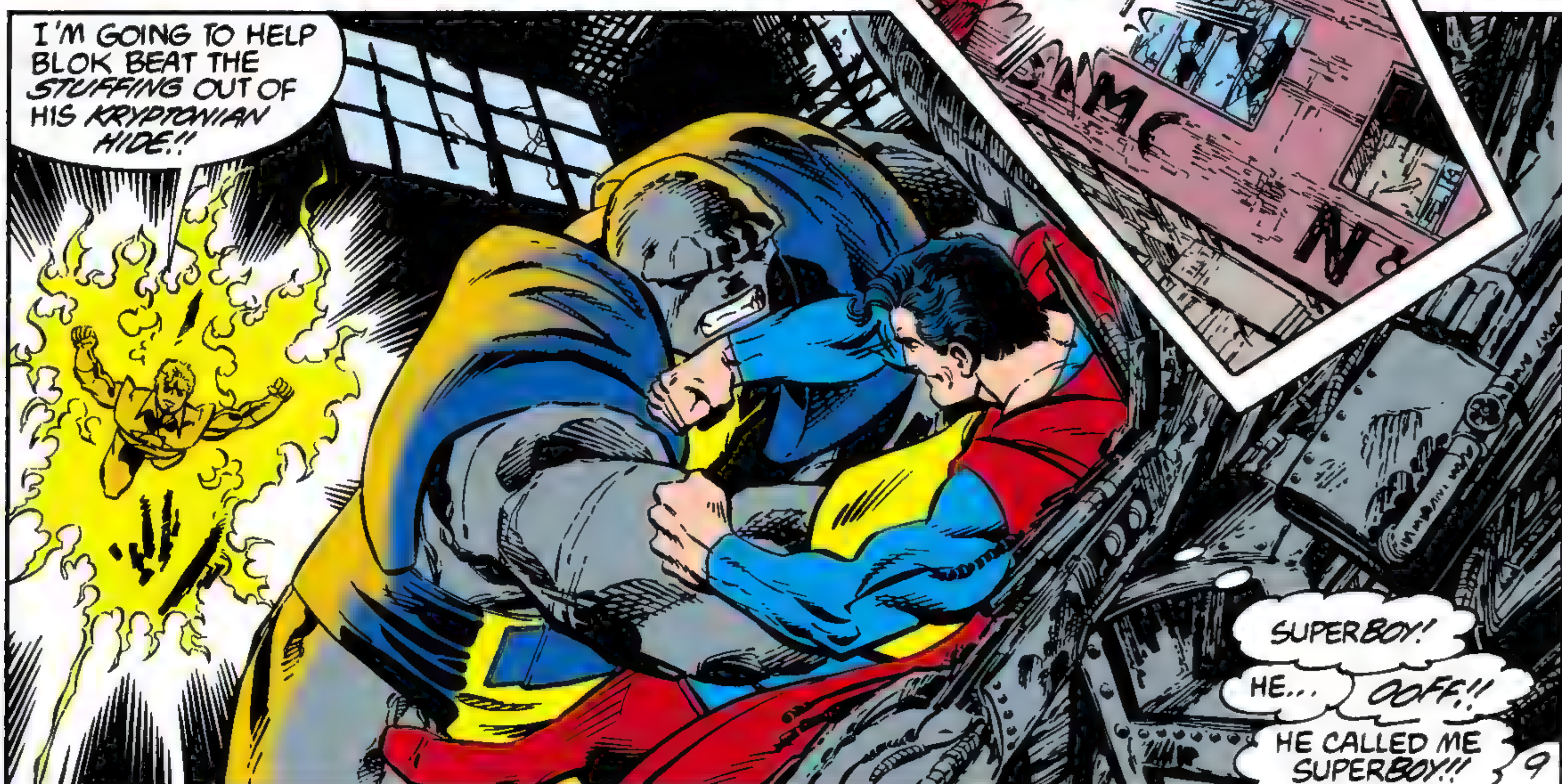
IT SEEMS HE
HAS FOLLOWED
US THROUGH
TIME!

LOOK!

HE IS
CIRCLING
BACK!!







I MET A KID WHO CALLED HIMSELF SUPERBOY A FEW MONTHS AGO. *

**BUT HE WENT
OFF INTO LIMBO
AT THE END OF
THE CRISIS.**

AND IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HE WAS AROUND LONG ENOUGH TO HAVE MADE THIS PACK OF ENEMIES.

HE IS...
RECOVERING.
YET...HE SEEMS
NOT TO BE
AS STRONG
AS I
REMEMBER...

* The sole survivor of EARTH PRIME, one of the parallel worlds destroyed during the CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS.

**BLOK!
STAND
CLEAR!**

**I'M GOING TO
HIT HIM WITH MY
FULL INTENSITY
BLAST!**

**THE SHOCK TO HIS
SYSTEM SHOULD
STUN HIM!**

ALWAYS ASSUMING
YOU CAN HIT ME,
CURLY-LOCKS.

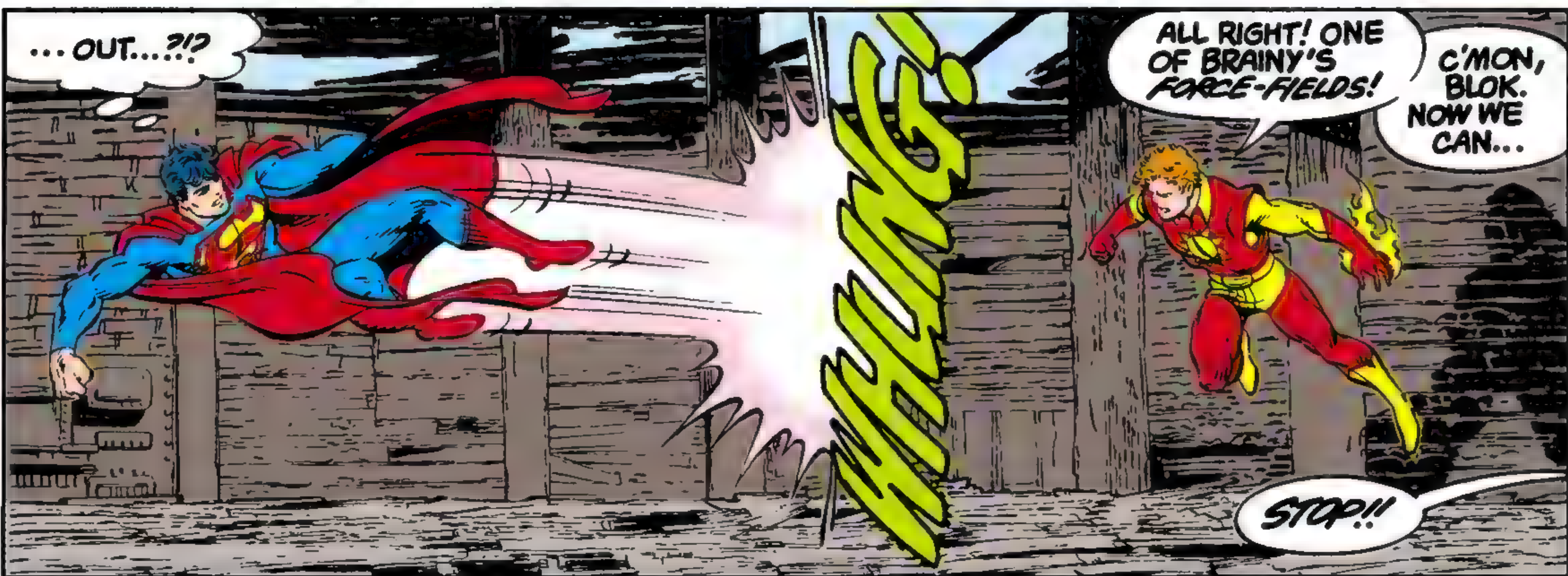
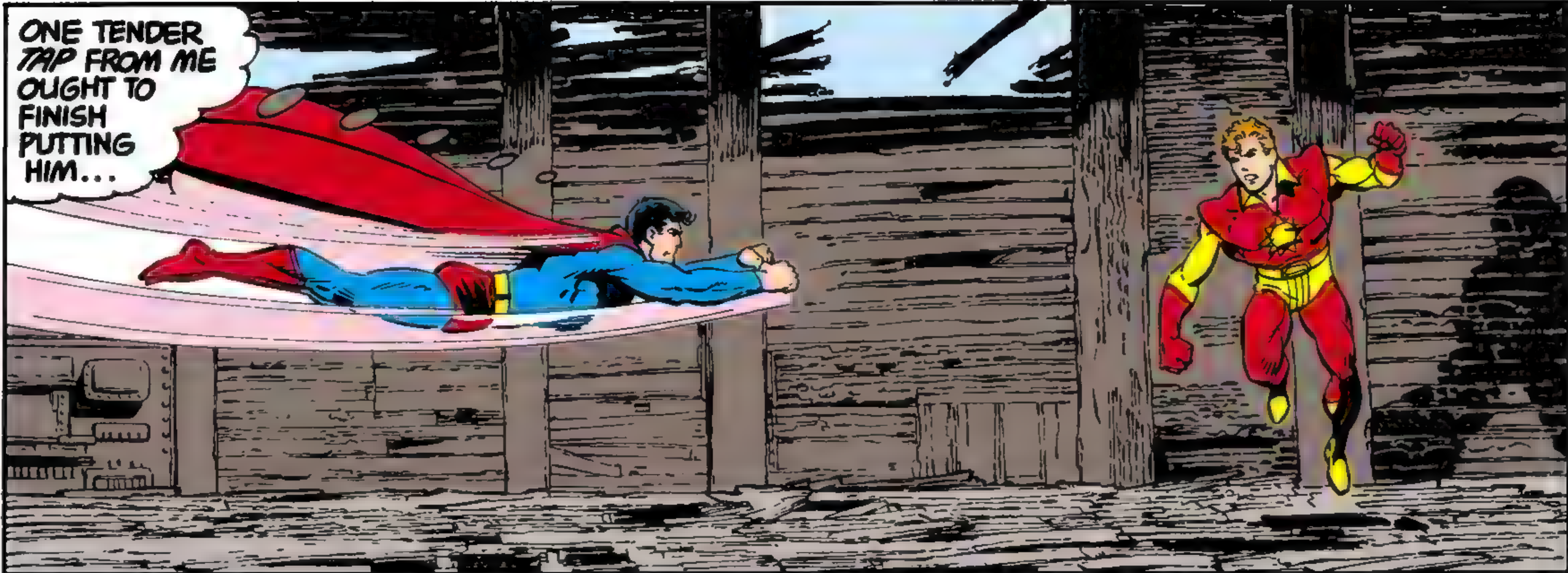
**GOT TO BE
CAREFUL.**

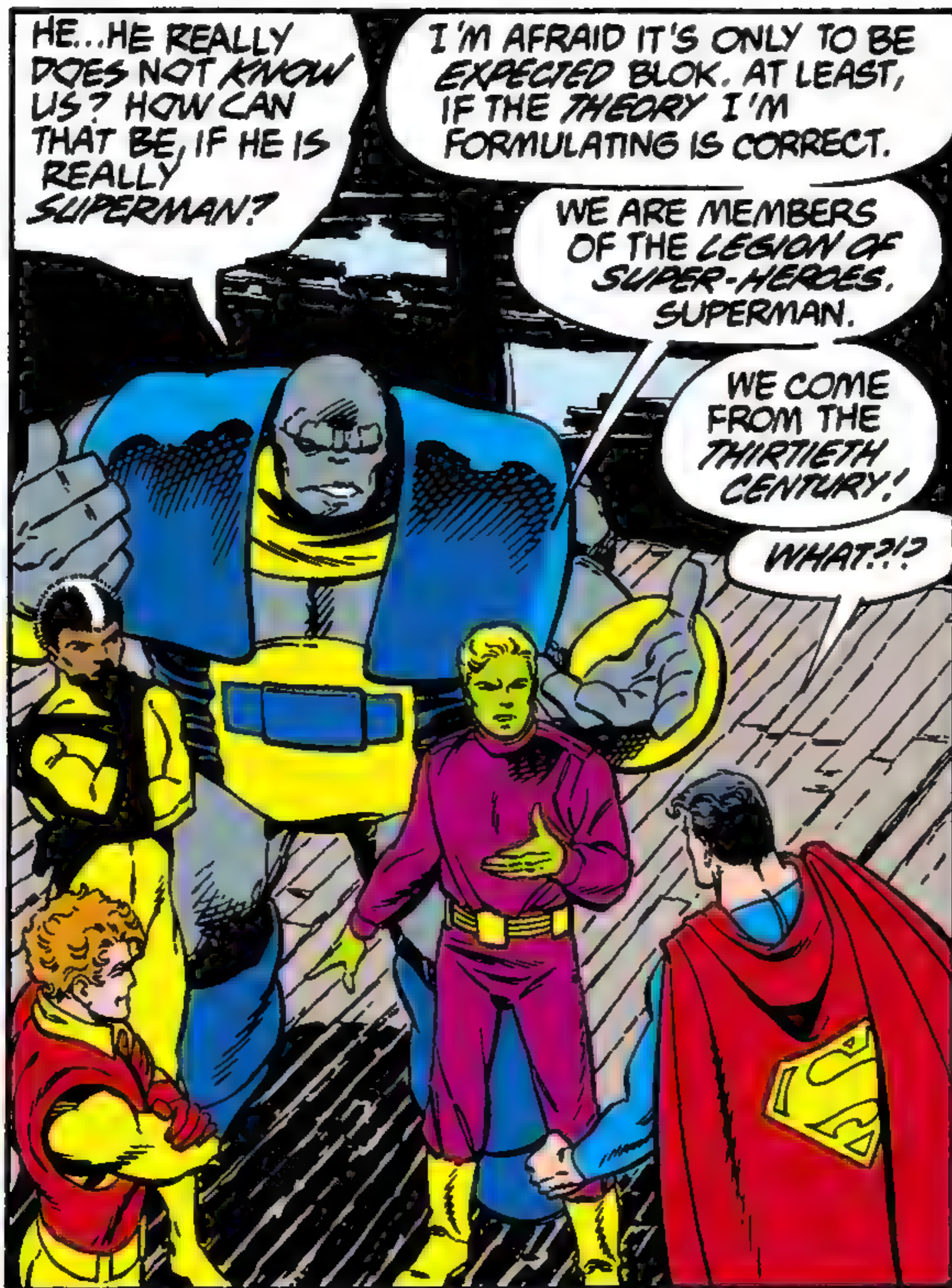
THAT BLAST FELT A
THOUSAND TIMES
HOTTER THAN THE
FIRST ONE HE
THREW AT ME.

**I DON'T
KNOW IF MY
INVULNERABIL-
ITY IS UP TO
STOPPING IT.**

HHMM...

LOOKS LIKE
THAT BLAST
REALLY TOOK THE
WIND OUT OF HIS
SAILS.





HE...HE REALLY DOES NOT KNOW US? HOW CAN THAT BE, IF HE IS REALLY SUPERMAN?

I'M AFRAID IT'S ONLY TO BE EXPECTED BLOK. AT LEAST, IF THE THEORY I'M FORMULATING IS CORRECT.

WE ARE MEMBERS OF THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, SUPERMAN.

WE COME FROM THE THIRTIETH CENTURY!

WHAT?!!?



I KNOW. YOU FIND MY STATEMENT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE.

PERHAPS IT WILL HELP IF I TELL YOU A STORY.

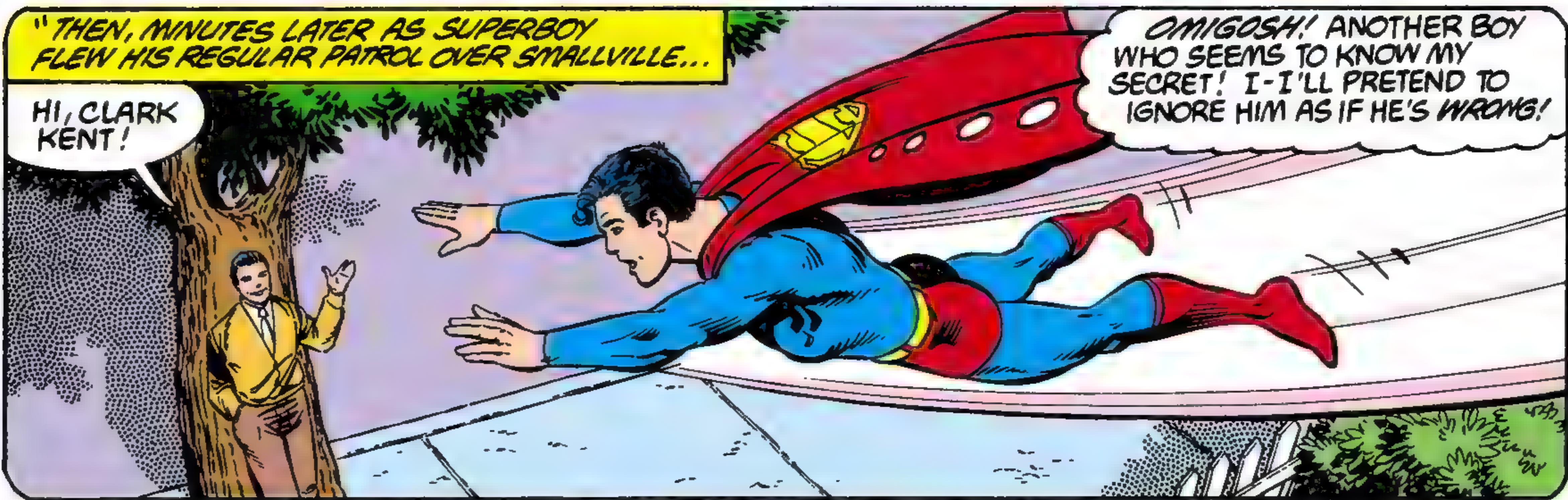


"A STORY THAT BEGINS SOME FEW YEARS AGO, AS YOUNG CLARK KENT RECEIVED A SUDDEN SHOCK..."

HELLO, SUPERBOY!

YOU... ER... THINK I'M SUPERBOY?

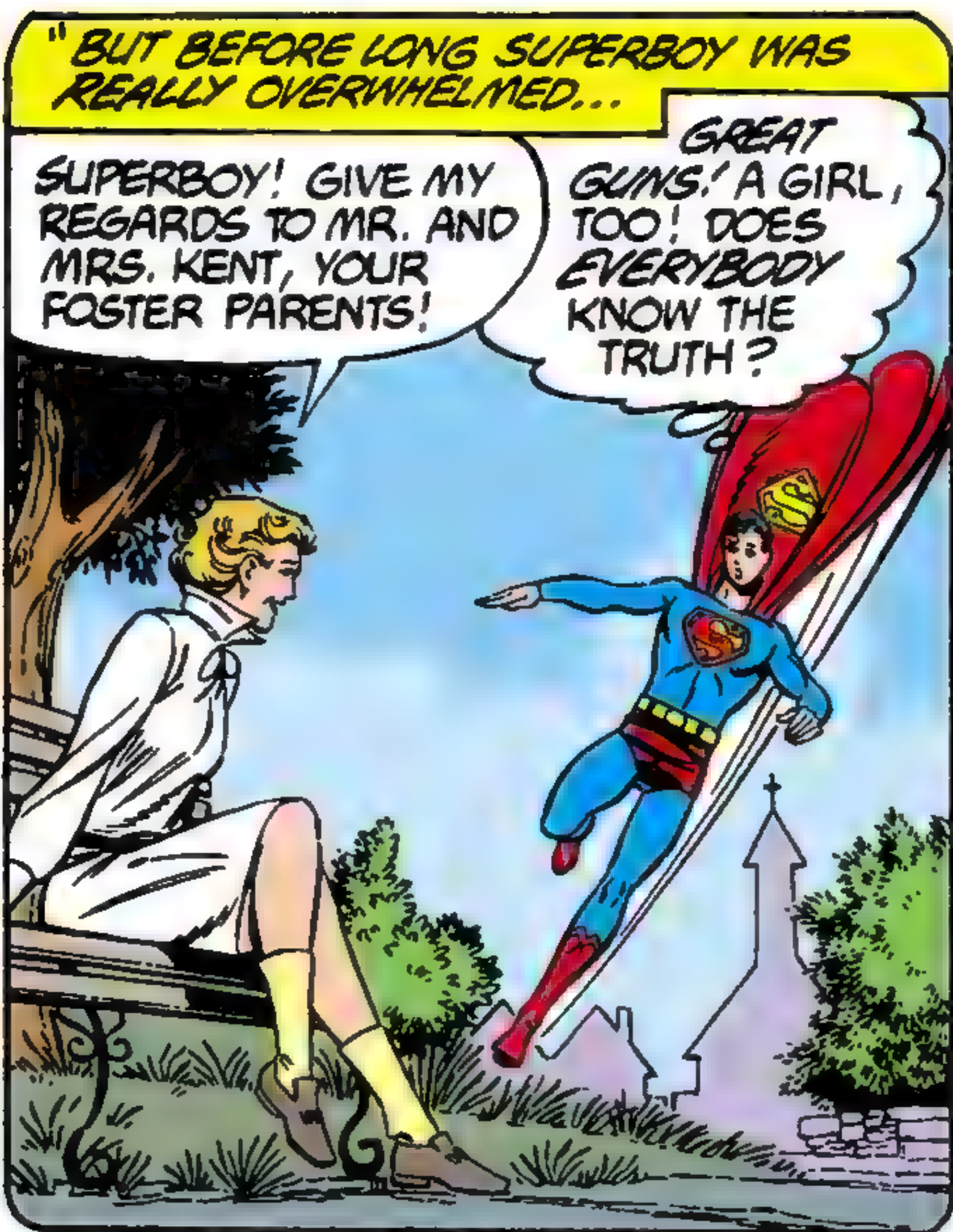
THAT IS A GOOD ONE! HA, HA!



"THEN, MINUTES LATER AS SUPERBOY FLEW HIS REGULAR PATROL OVER SMALLVILLE..."

HI, CLARK KENT!

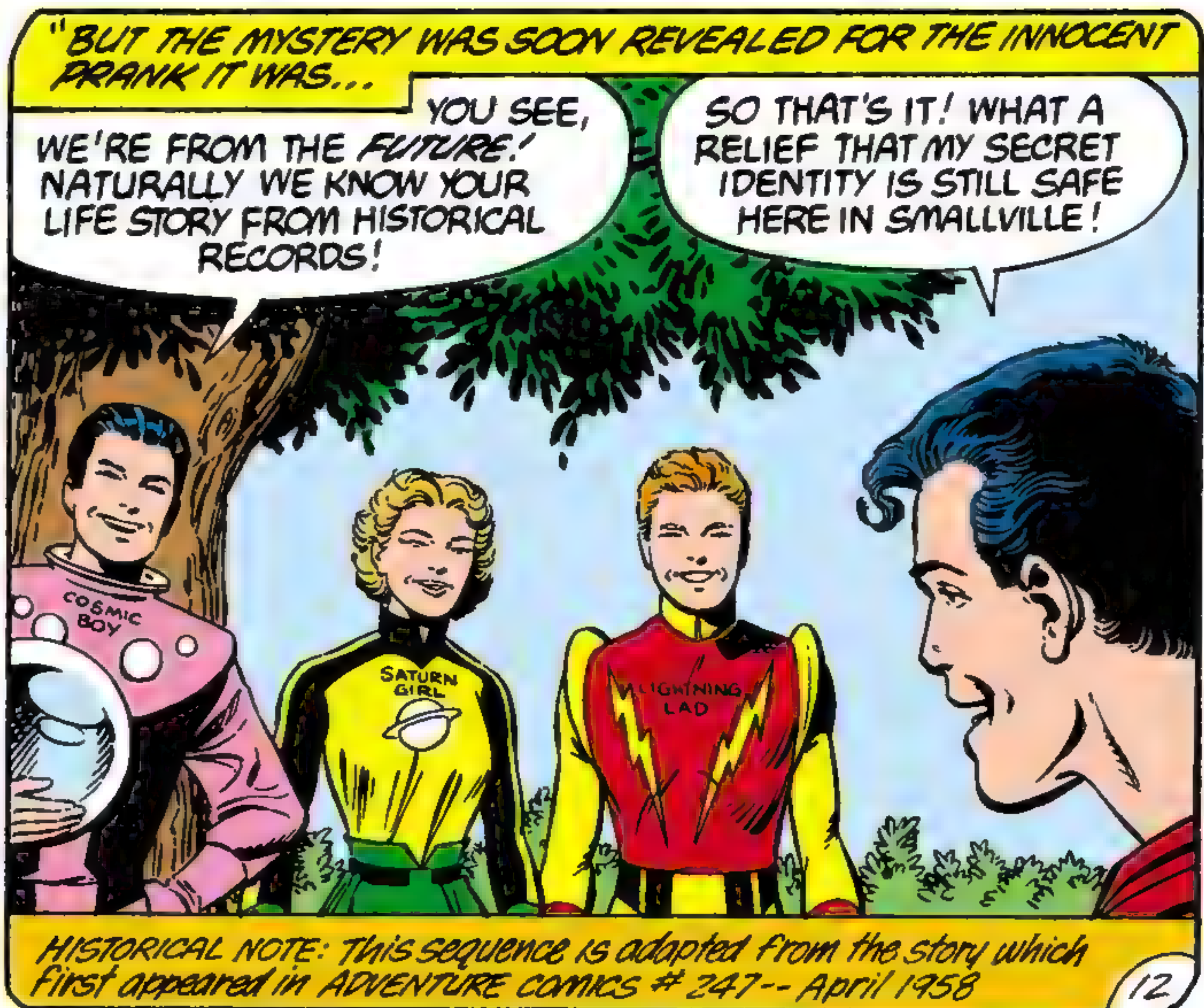
OMIGOSH! ANOTHER BOY WHO SEEMS TO KNOW MY SECRET! I-I'LL PRETEND TO IGNORE HIM AS IF HE'S WRONG!



"BUT BEFORE LONG SUPERBOY WAS REALLY OVERWHELMED..."

SUPERBOY! GIVE MY REGARDS TO MR. AND MRS. KENT, YOUR FOSTER PARENTS!

GREAT GUYS! A GIRL, TOO! DOES EVERYBODY KNOW THE TRUTH?



"BUT THE MYSTERY WAS SOON REVEALED FOR THE INNOCENT PRANK IT WAS..."

YOU SEE, WE'RE FROM THE FUTURE! NATURALLY WE KNOW YOUR LIFE STORY FROM HISTORICAL RECORDS!

SO THAT'S IT! WHAT A RELIEF THAT MY SECRET IDENTITY IS STILL SAFE HERE IN SMALLVILLE!

HISTORICAL NOTE: This sequence is adapted from the story which first appeared in ADVENTURE COMICS # 247-- April 1958



NOW WAIT A MINUTE!

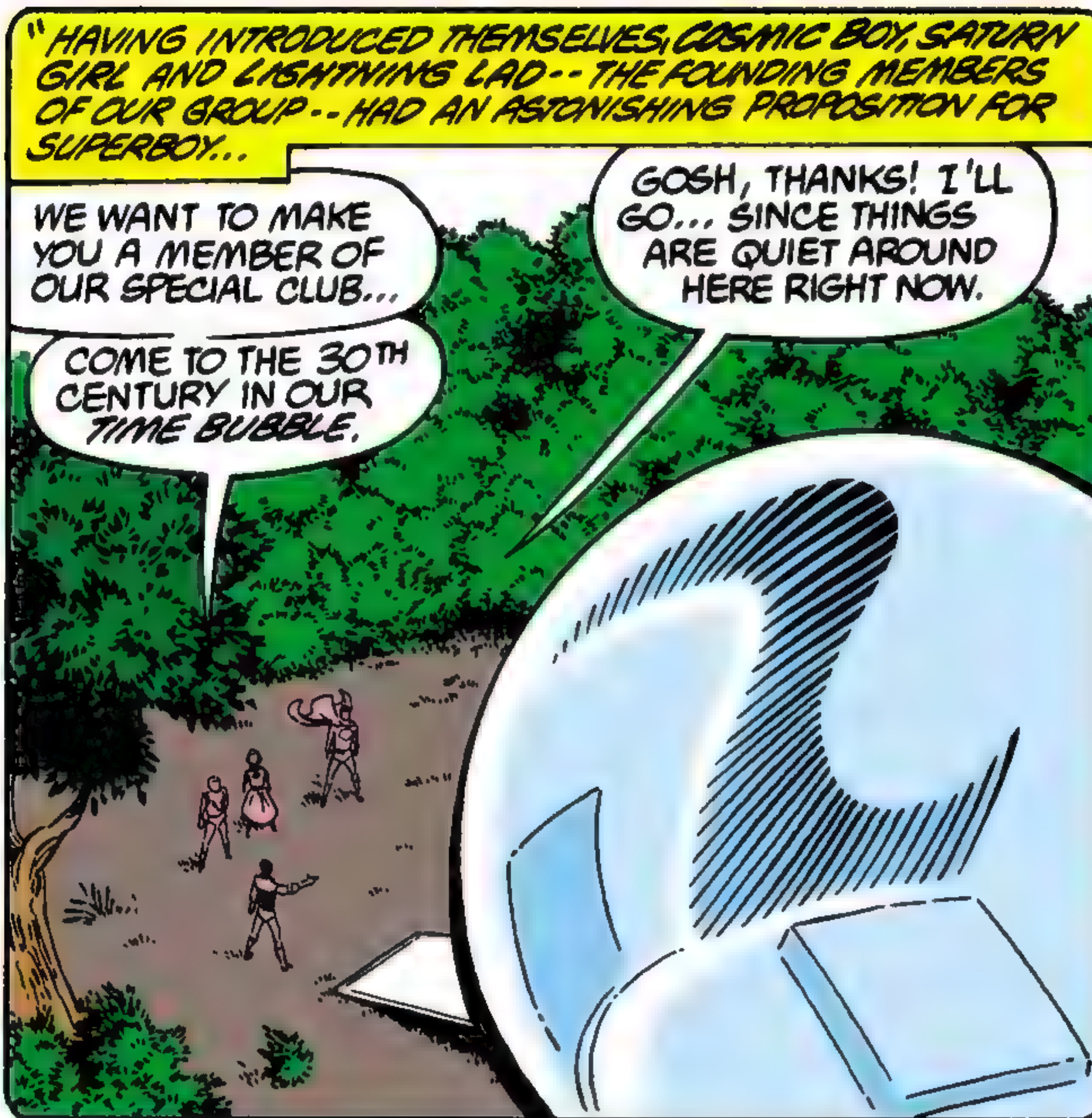
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU *DISCOVERED* I'M REALLY CLARK KENT...

BUT THE REST OF YOUR TALE DOESN'T *HOLD WATER*!

I'VE NEVER BEEN CALLED "SUPERBOY."

AND YOU NEVER EXPERIENCED THE EVENTS I'VE DESCRIBED, I *KNOW*.

BUT *BEAR WITH ME*, SUPERMAN, I ASSURE YOU YOUR CONFUSION IS NO GREATER THAN OURS!

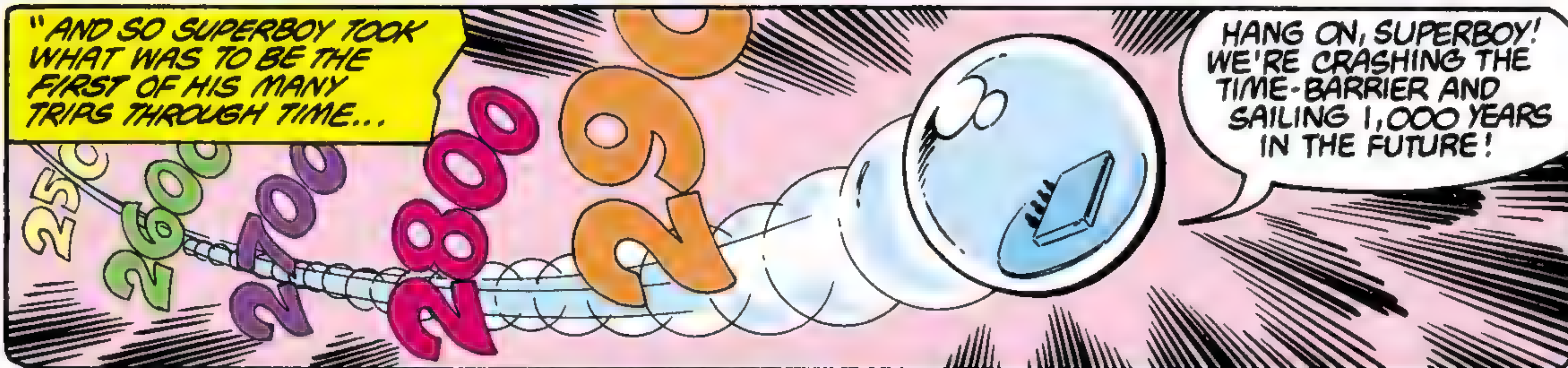


"HAVING INTRODUCED THEMSELVES, COSMIC BOY, SATURN GIRL AND LIGHTNING LAD-- THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF OUR GROUP-- HAD AN ASTONISHING PROPOSITION FOR SUPERBOY..."

WE WANT TO MAKE YOU A MEMBER OF OUR SPECIAL CLUB...

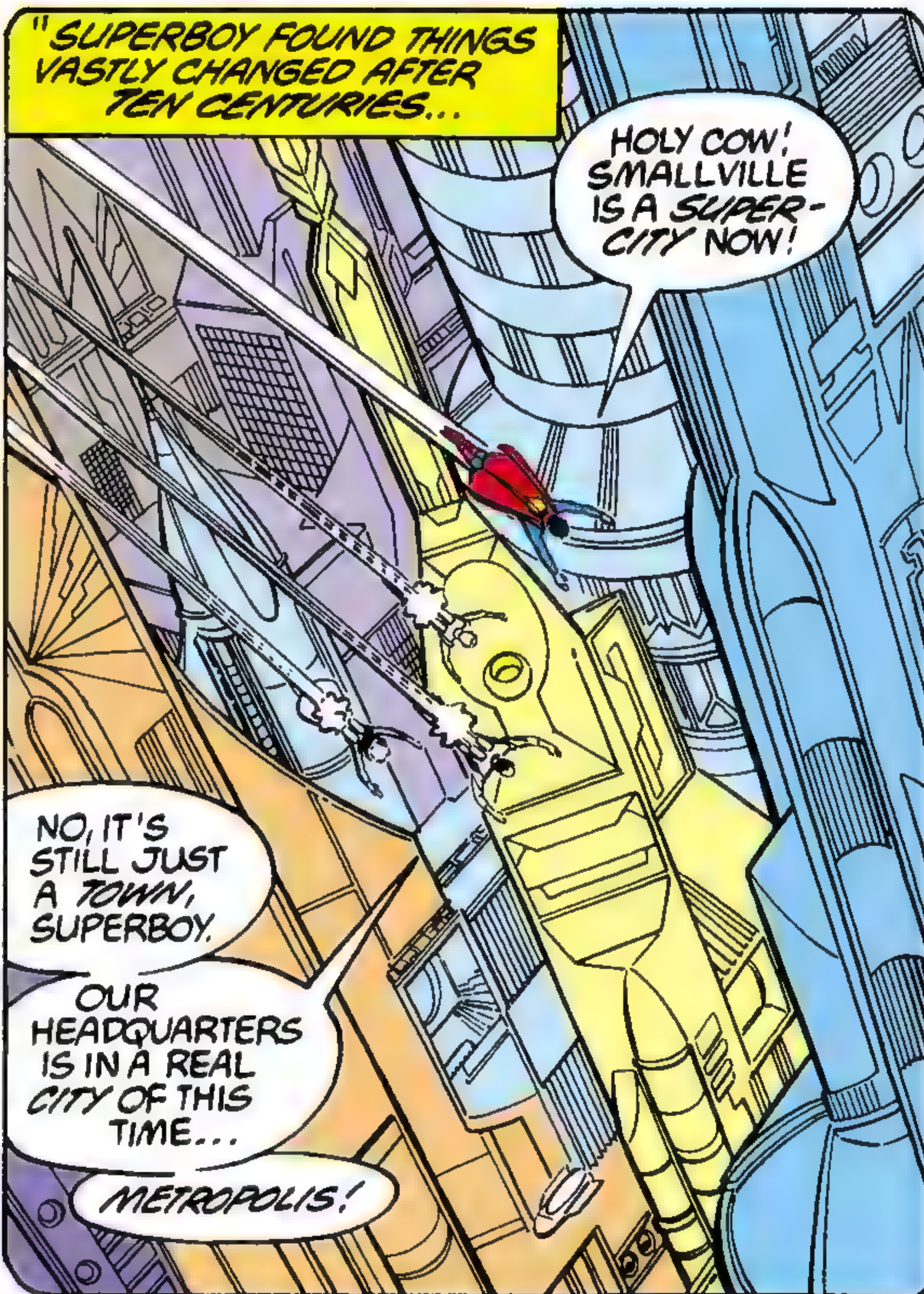
COME TO THE 30TH CENTURY IN OUR *TIME BUBBLE*.

GOSH, THANKS! I'LL GO... SINCE THINGS ARE QUIET AROUND HERE RIGHT NOW.



"AND SO SUPERBOY TOOK WHAT WAS TO BE THE FIRST OF HIS MANY TRIPS THROUGH TIME..."

HANG ON, SUPERBOY! WE'RE CRASHING THE TIME-BARRIER AND SAILING 1,000 YEARS IN THE FUTURE!



"SUPERBOY FOUND THINGS VASTLY CHANGED AFTER TEN CENTURIES..."

HOLY COW! SMALLVILLE IS A *SUPER-CITY* NOW!

NO, IT'S STILL JUST A *TOWN*, SUPERBOY.

OUR HEADQUARTERS IS IN A REAL CITY OF THIS TIME...

METROPOLIS!



"SO, A THOUSAND YEARS AFTER HE MOVED THERE AS AN ADULT, SUPERBOY VISITED METROPOLIS FOR THE FIRST TIME!"

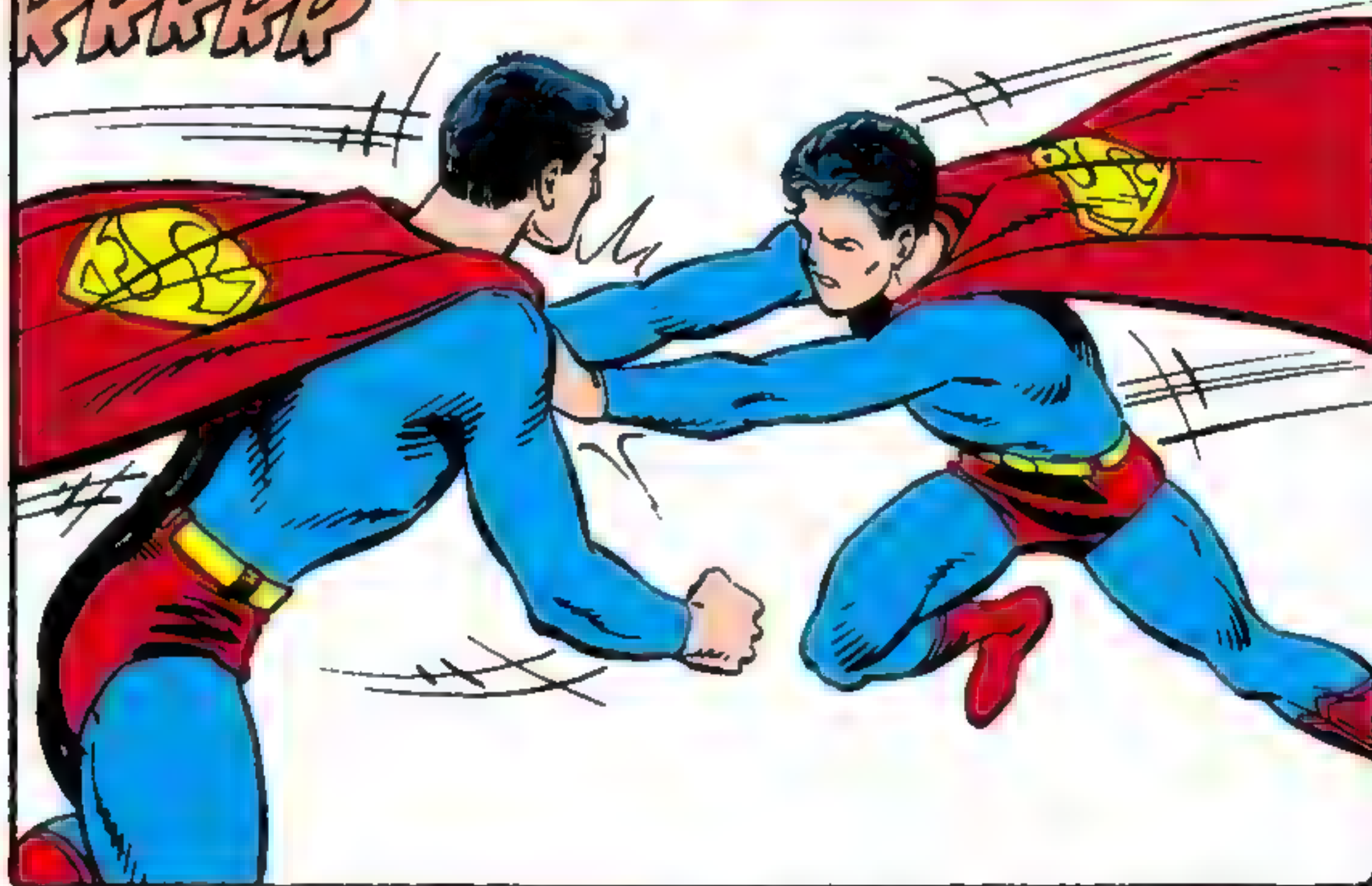
THIS IS OUR HEADQUARTERS, SUPERBOY.

BUT, BEFORE YOU BECOME A MEMBER, YOU MUST FOLLOW THE CLUB RULES AND *PROVE* YOU'RE A *SUPER-HERO*!

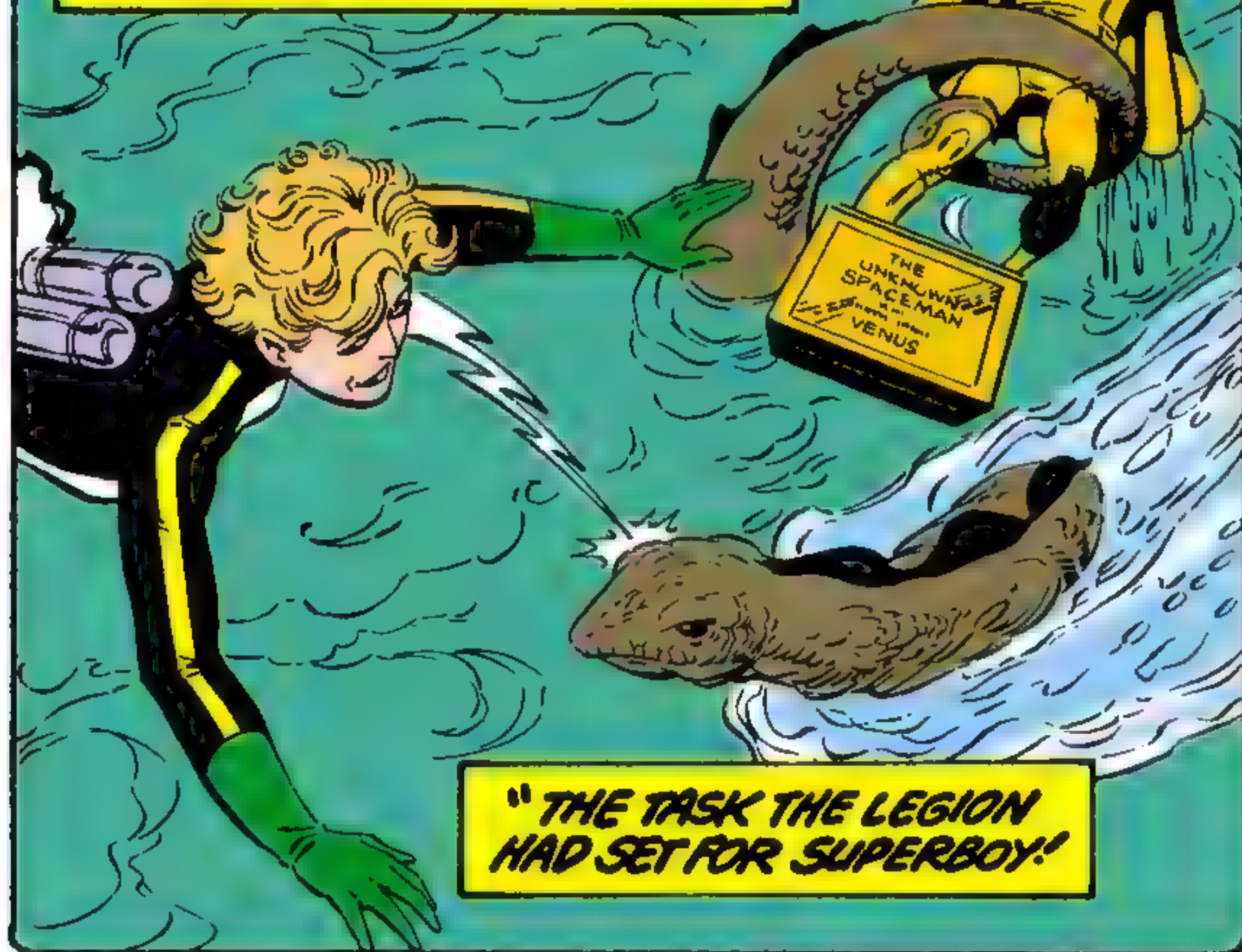
"THAT DID NOT TURN OUT TO BE AS EASY AS SUPERBOY MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED.

"HE FOUND HIMSELF FORCED INTO A BRIEF BATTLE WITH A RUNAWAY SUPERBOY ROBOT FROM A HISTORY CLASS.

RRRRR

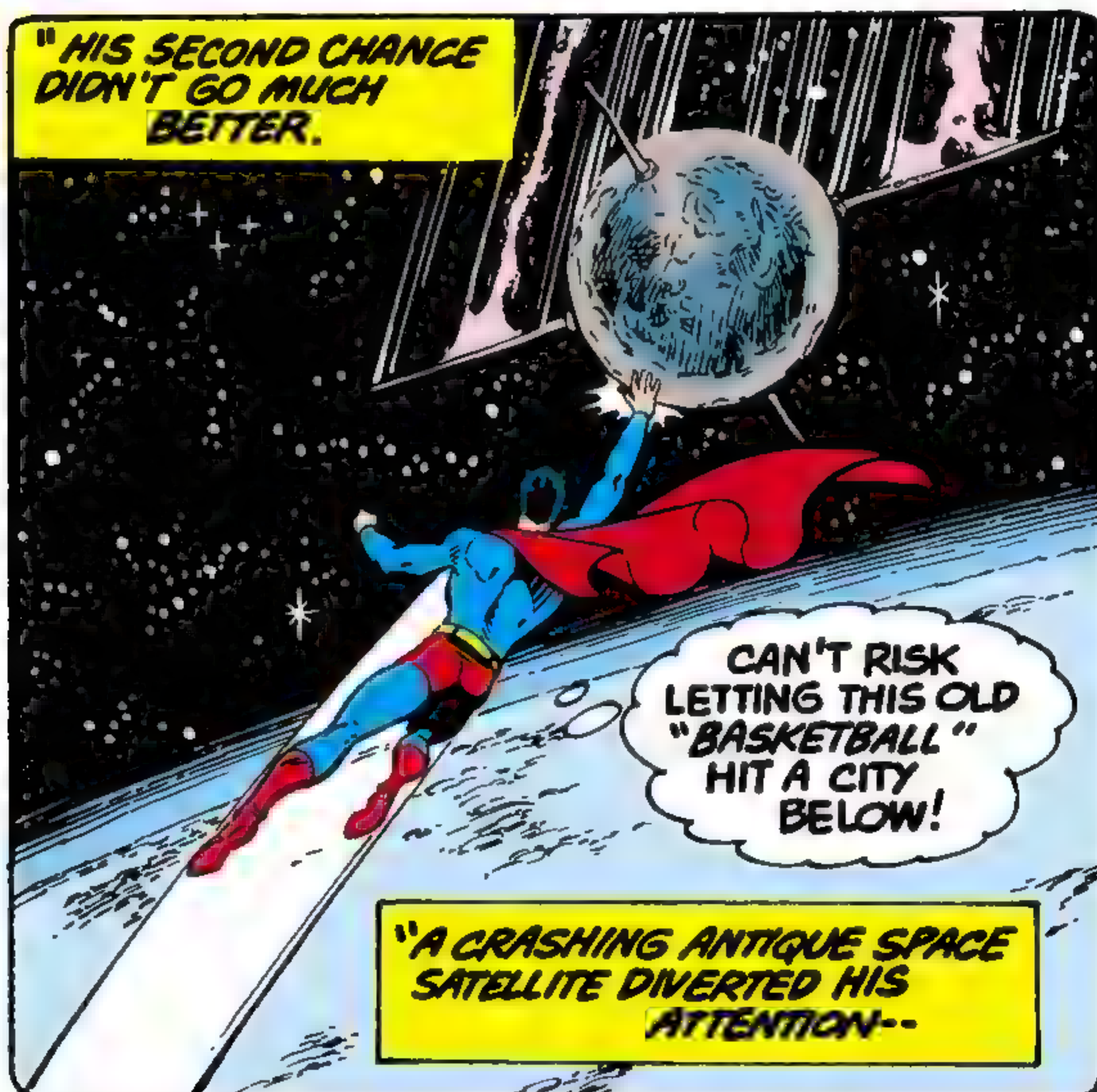


"WHILE SATURN GIRL USED HER POWER OF TELEPATHY TO MENTALLY COMMAND A SEA-CREATURE TO SALVAGE A PRICELESS STATUE--



"THE TASK THE LEGION HAD SET FOR SUPERBOY!

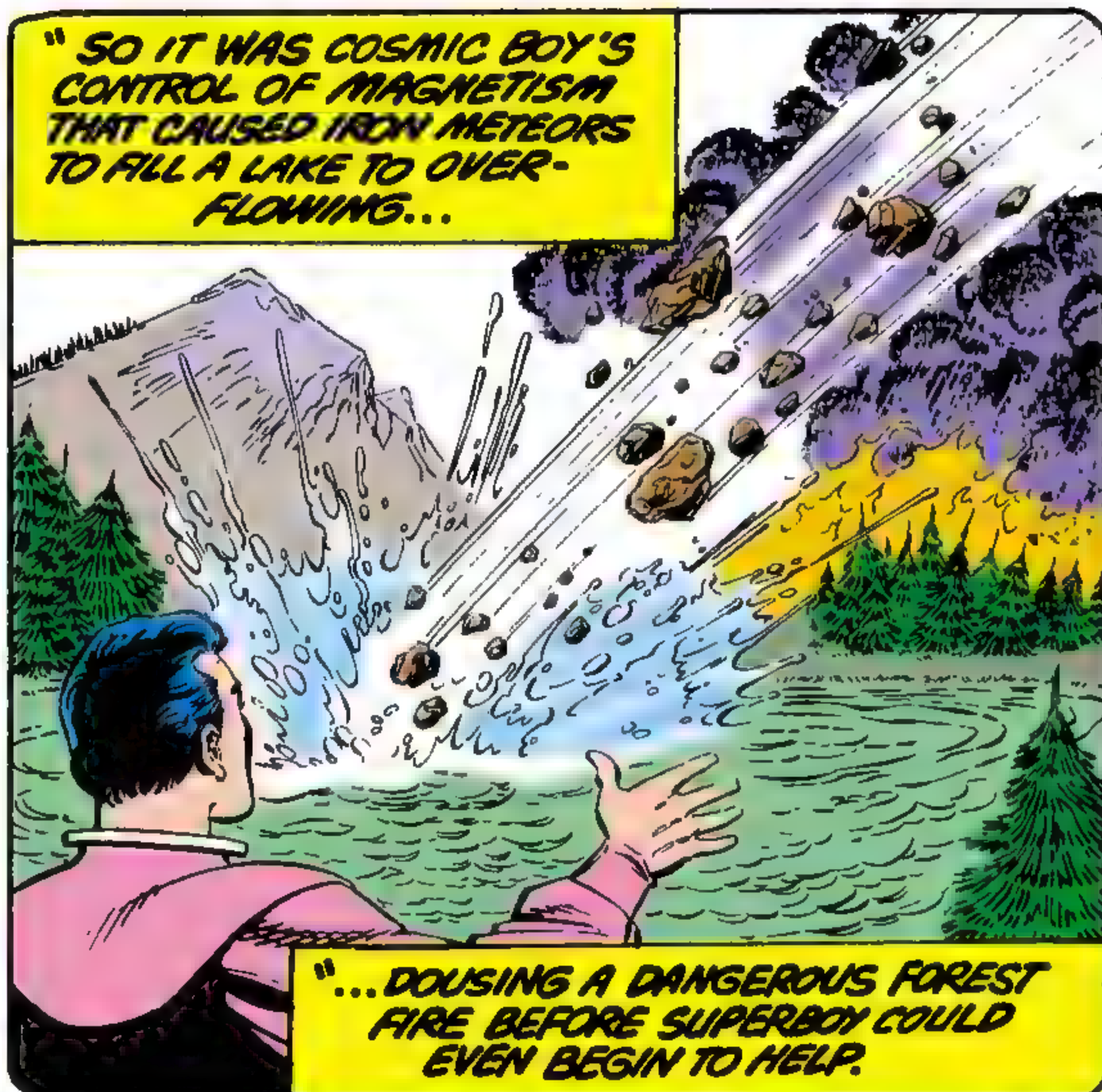
"HIS SECOND CHANCE DIDN'T GO MUCH BETTER.



CAN'T RISK LETTING THIS OLD "BASKETBALL" HIT A CITY BELOW!

"A CRASHING ANTIQUE SPACE SATELLITE DIVERTED HIS ATTENTION--

"SO IT WAS COSMIC BOY'S CONTROL OF MAGNETISM THAT CAUSED IRON METEORS TO FALL A LAKE TO OVERFLOWING...



"...DOUSING A DANGEROUS FOREST FIRE BEFORE SUPERBOY COULD EVEN BEGIN TO HELP.

"FINALLY A GIANT ALIEN BIRD ESCAPED FROM THE INTERPLANETARY ZOO, MENACING AIRCRAFT.



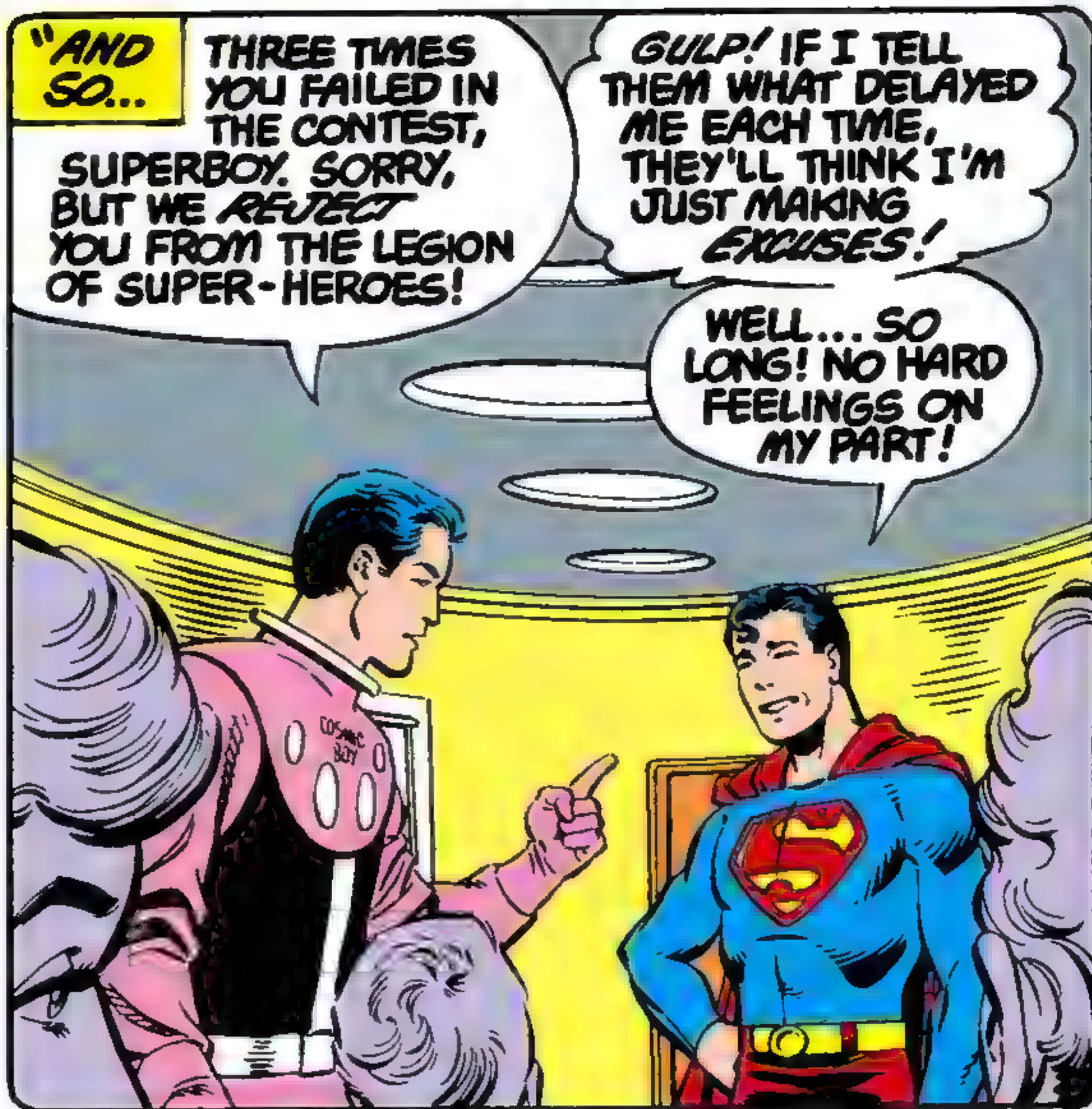
"FINDING A WAY TO CAPTURE IT DELAYED SUPERBOY LONG ENOUGH...

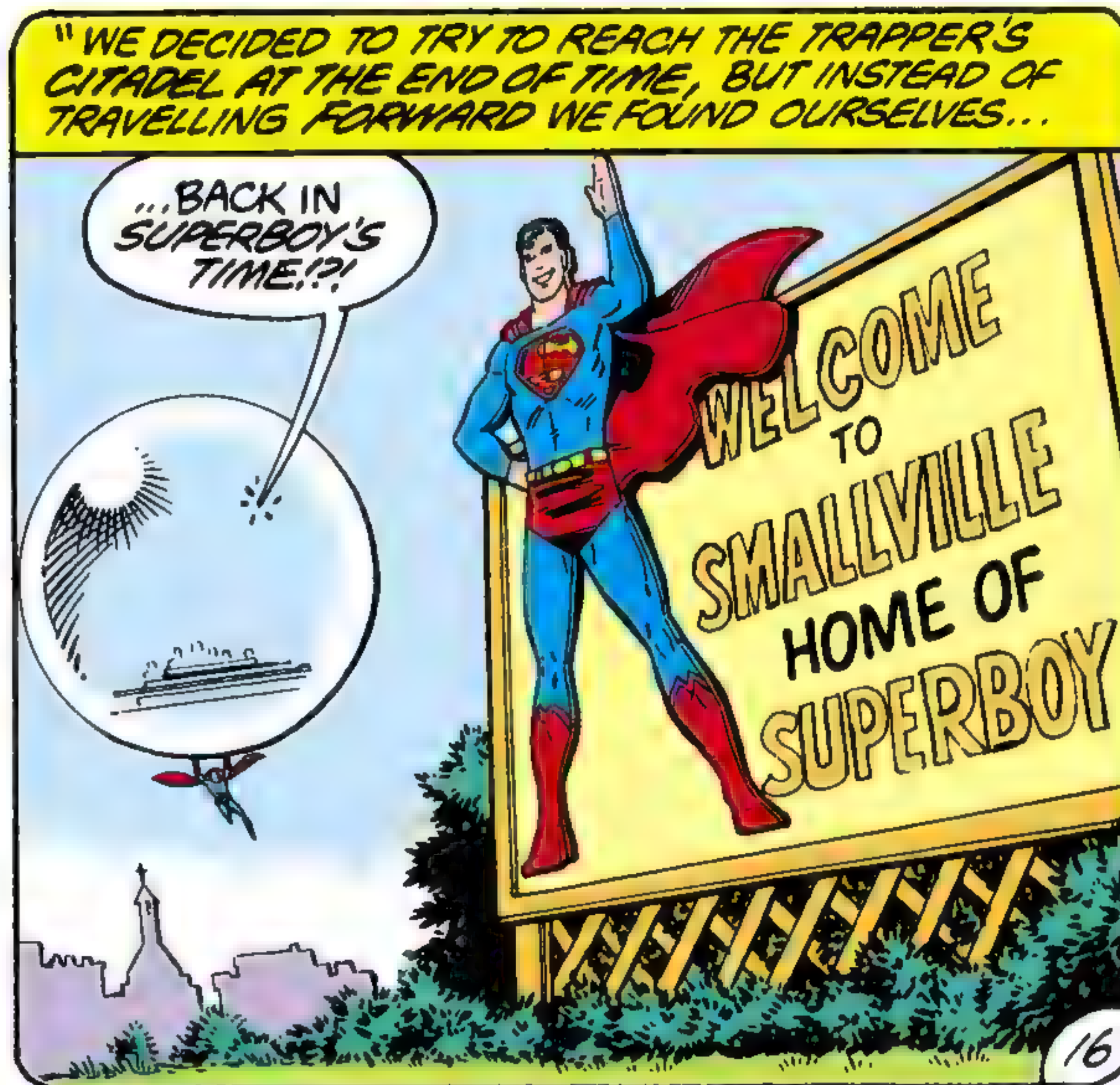
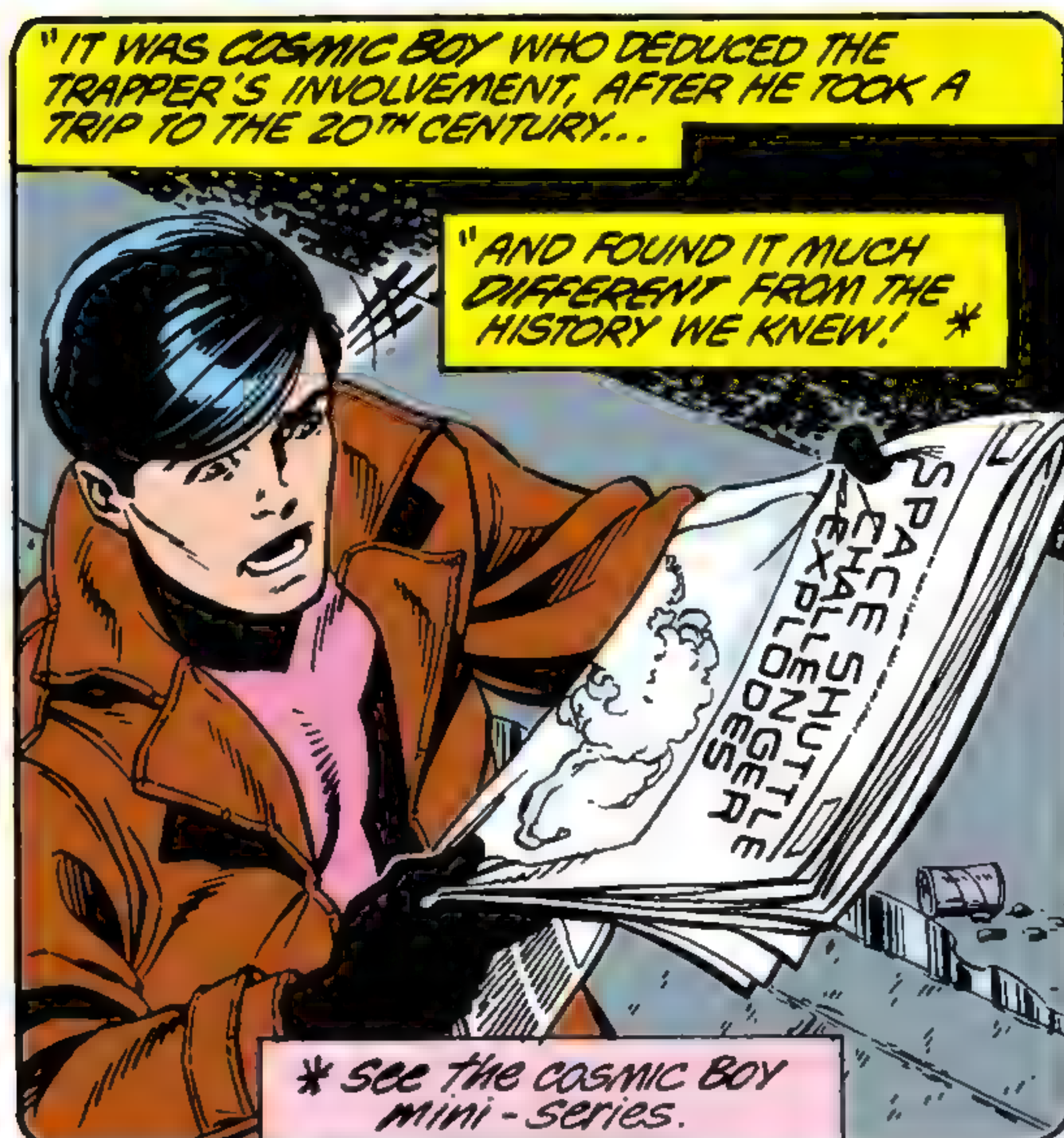
"...THAT LIGHTNING LAD HAD TO USE HIS SUPER-ELECTRICAL POWERS TO FLASH A WARNING TO AN ENDANGERED SPACE-CRUISER...

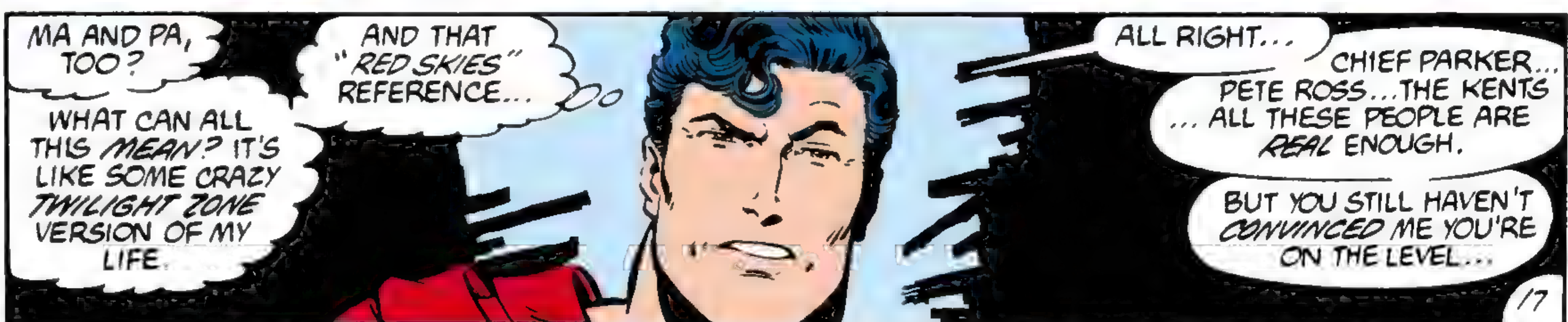
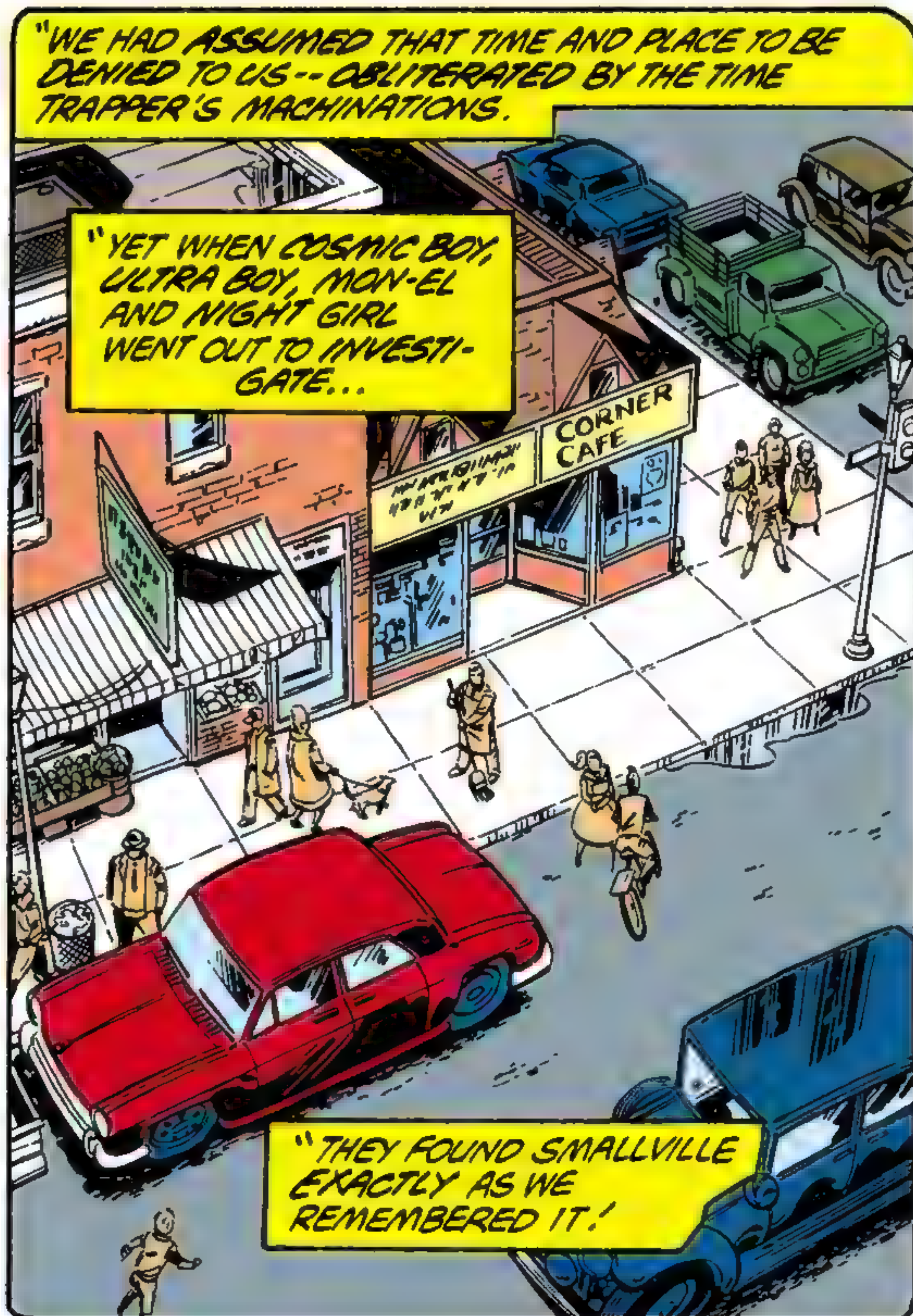


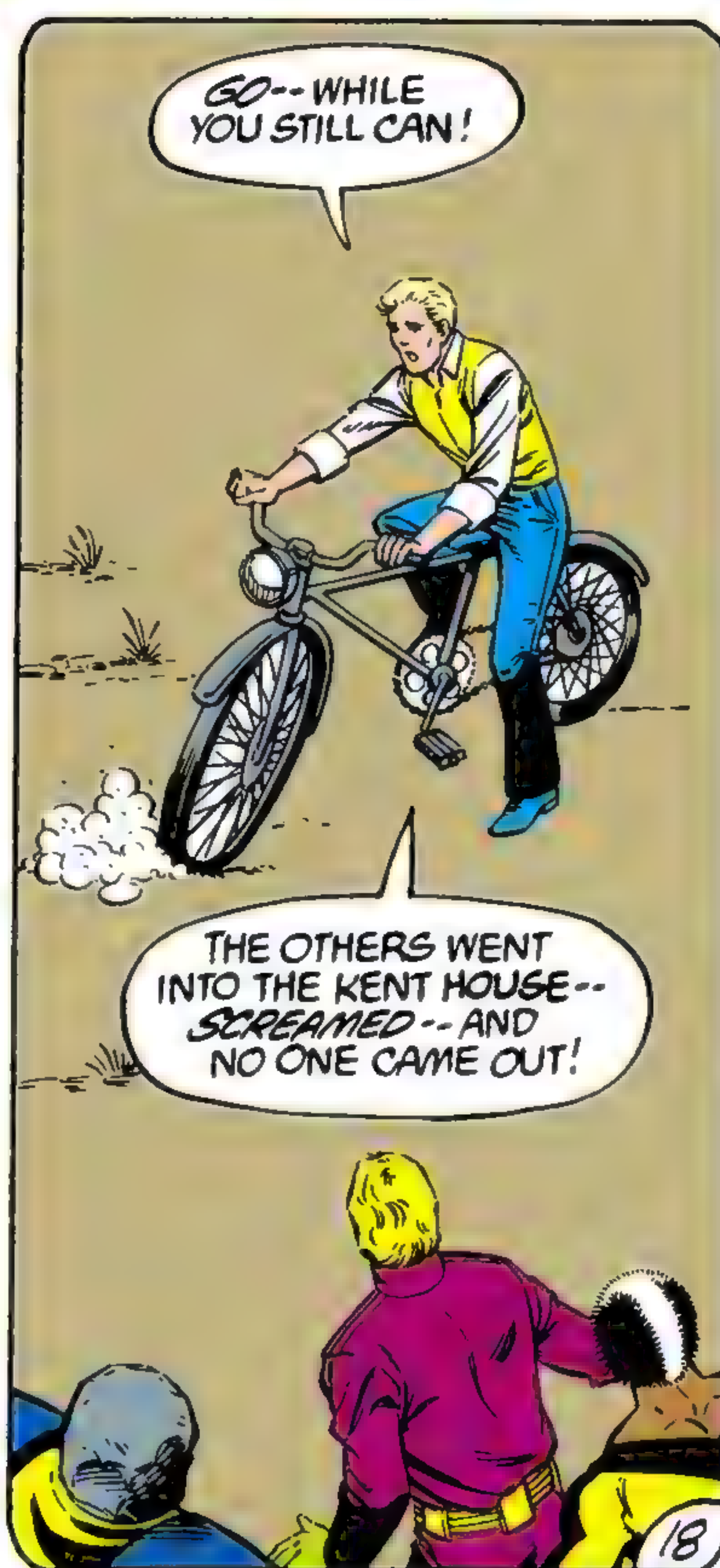
AHOY NOVA EXPRESS! YOUR FUEL TANK IS LEAKING! RETURN FOR REPAIRS!

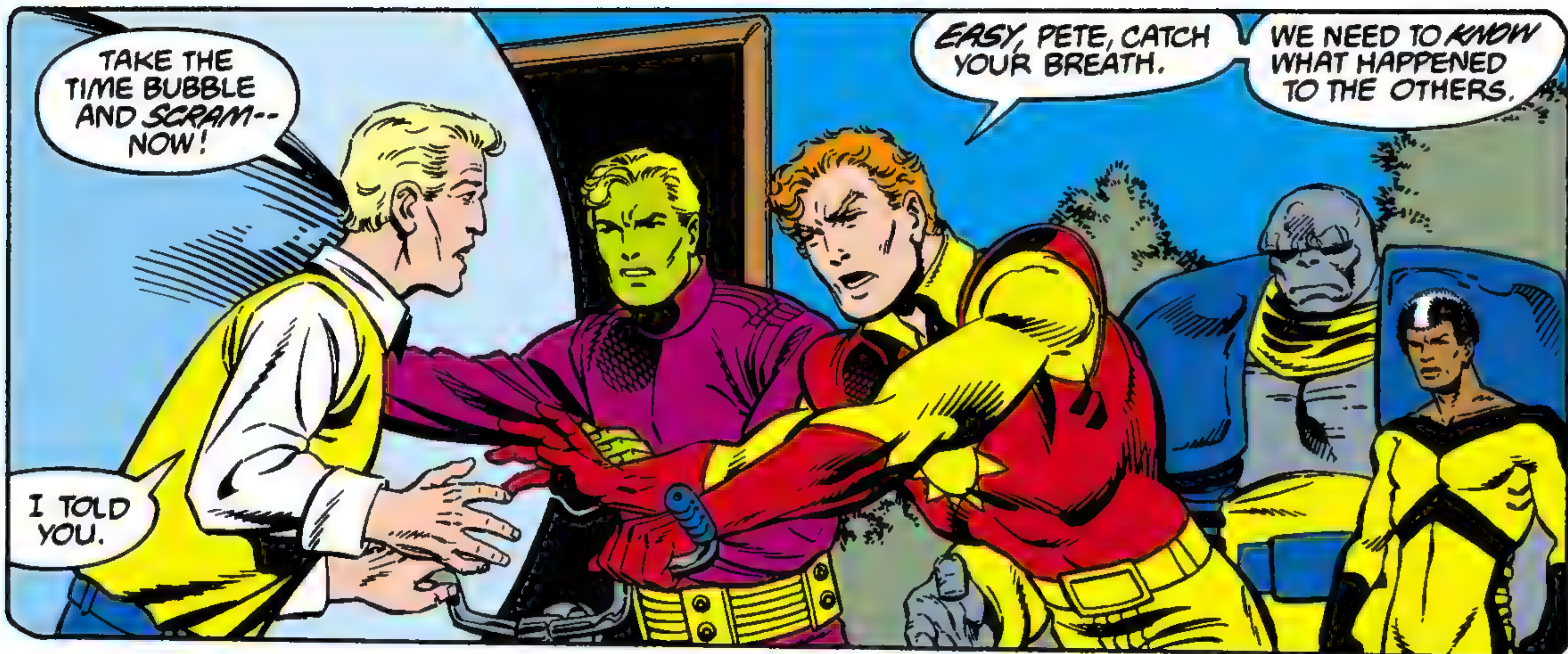
"SUPERBOY CAME IN SECOND AGAIN.









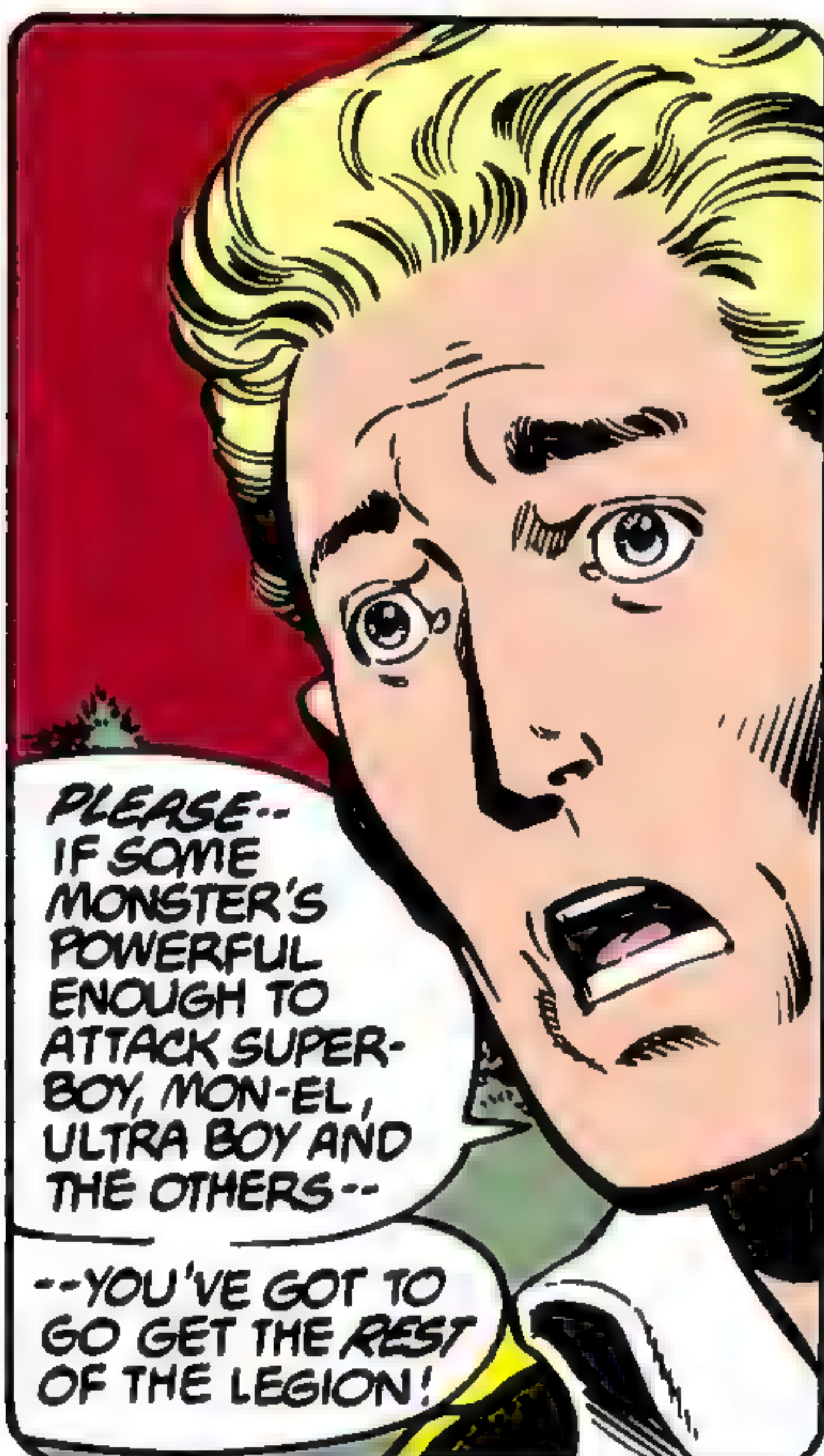


TAKE THE TIME BUBBLE AND SCRAM-- NOW!

EASY, PETE, CATCH YOUR BREATH.

WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS.

I TOLD YOU.



PLEASE-- IF SOME MONSTER'S POWERFUL ENOUGH TO ATTACK SUPER-BOY, MON-EL, ULTRA BOY AND THE OTHERS--

--YOU'VE GOT TO GO GET THE REST OF THE LEGION!



WELL REASONED, BUT THEN YOU MUST COME WITH US.

NO. I'LL GO BACK-- TRY TO FIND OUT MORE--



NOBODY SUSPECTS ME OF ANY CONNECTION TO THE LEGION.

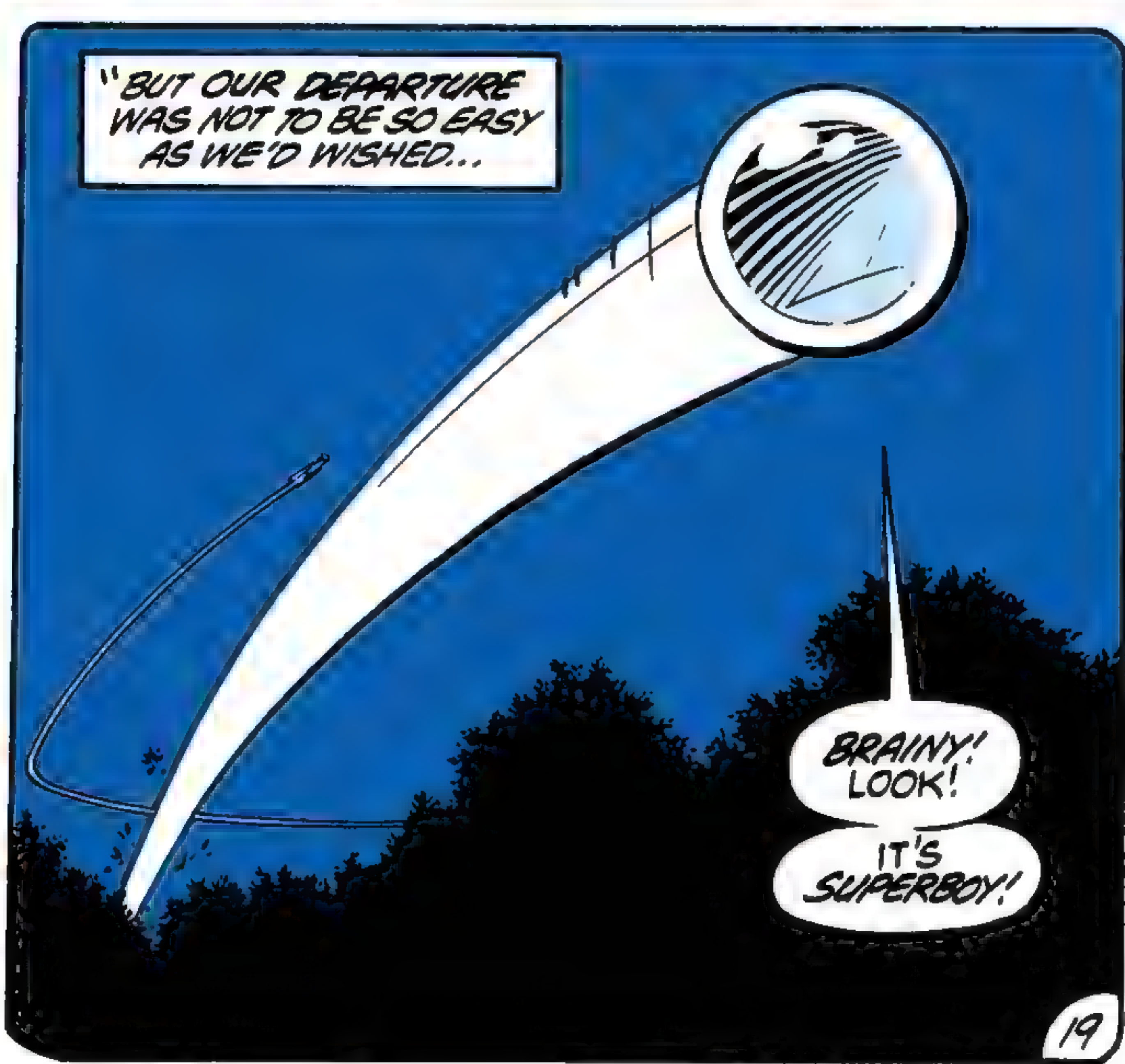
COME ON, BRAINY. MON-EL CAN ALWAYS BRING THE OTHERS THROUGH THE TIME STREAM UNDER HIS OWN POWER, IF HE HAS TO.

LET'S AT LEAST GET OURSELVES TO A SAFE DISTANCE AND THINK THIS OUT.



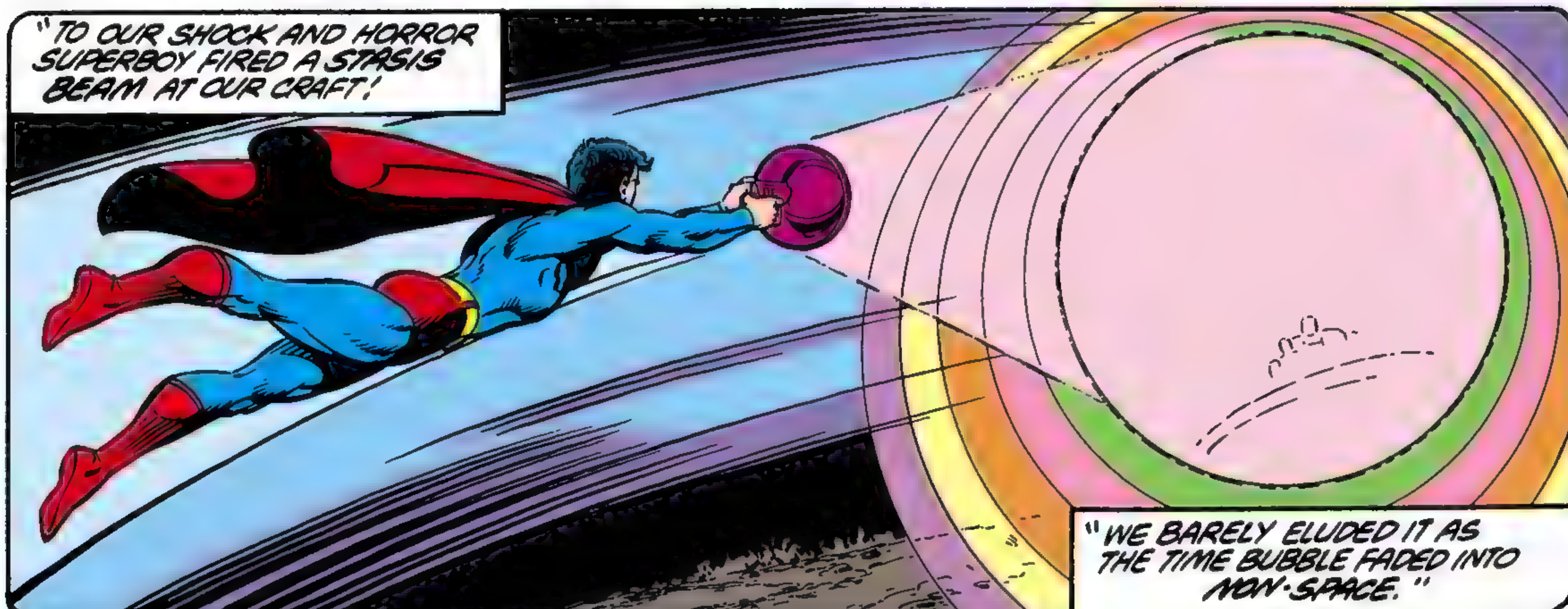
VERY WELL. GOOD LUCK, PETE.

AND WHATEVER ELSE HAPPENS, YOU'VE PROVEN YOURSELF WORTHY OF BEING A LEGIONNAIRE!



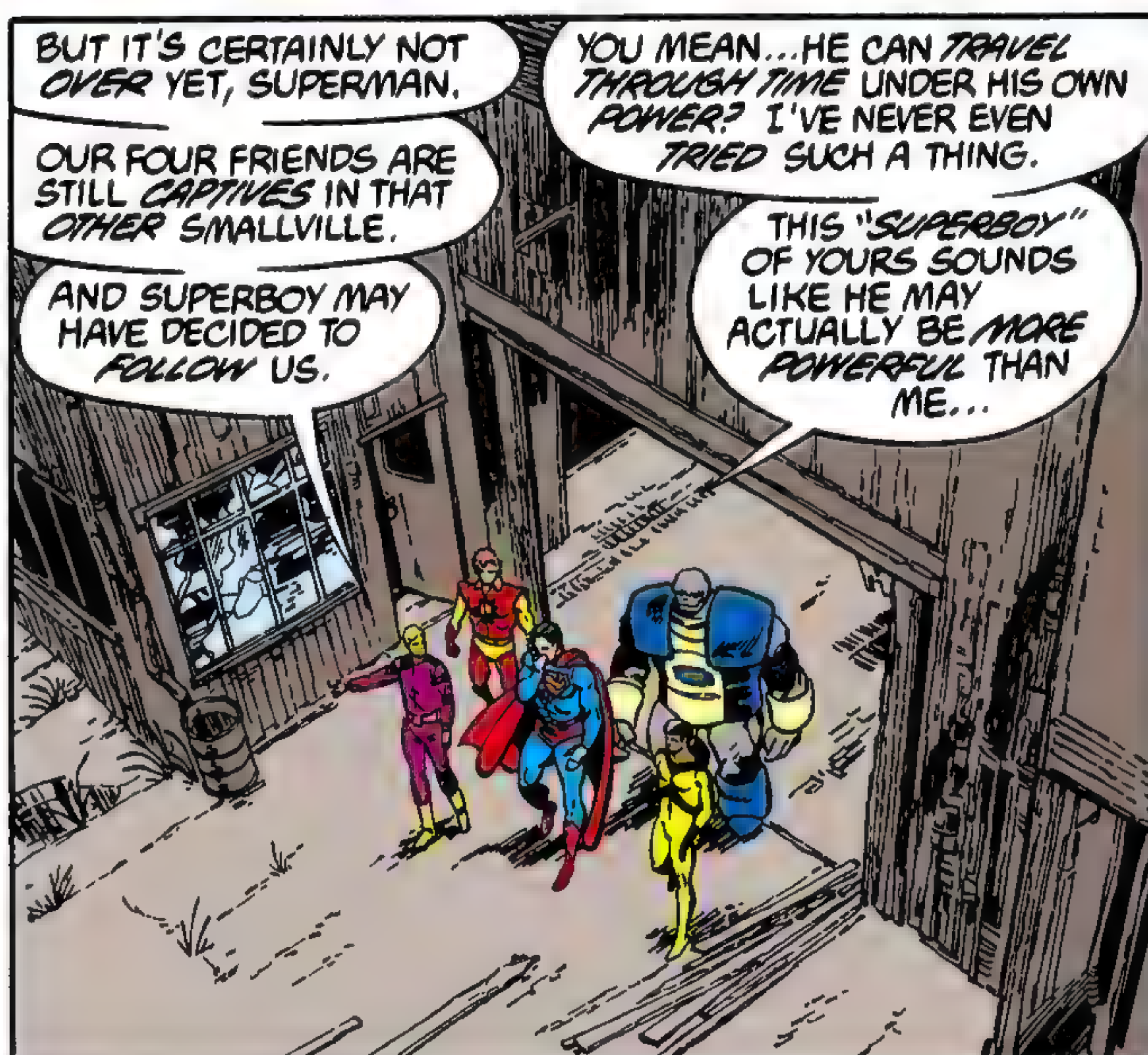
"BUT OUR DEPARTURE WAS NOT TO BE SO EASY AS WE'D WISHED..."

BRAINY! LOOK!
IT'S SUPERBOY!



"TO OUR SHOCK AND HORROR
SUPERBOY FIRED A STASIS
BEAM AT OUR CRAFT!"

"WE BARELY ELUDED IT AS
THE TIME BUBBLE FADED INTO
NON-SPACE."



BUT IT'S CERTAINLY NOT
OVER YET, SUPERMAN.

OUR FOUR FRIENDS ARE
STILL CAPTIVES IN THAT
OTHER SMALLVILLE.

AND SUPERBOY MAY
HAVE DECIDED TO
FOLLOW US.

YOU MEAN...HE CAN TRAVEL
THROUGH TIME UNDER HIS OWN
POWER? I'VE NEVER EVEN
TRIED SUCH A THING.

THIS "SUPERBOY"
OF YOURS SOUNDS
LIKE HE MAY
ACTUALLY BE MORE
POWERFUL THAN
ME...



COUNT ON
IT, "SUPERMAN."

WHAT...??



THE
STASIS
RAY...

CAN'T...

...MOVE...

...SUPER...?



SUPERMAN VS. SUPERBOY PAST IMPERFECT

JUST OUTSIDE SMALLVILLE,
KANSAS.

IN A LONG-ABANDONED
STONE QUARRY, AN
IMPOSSIBLE CONFRONTATION...

Story, pencils & figure inks: John Byrne
Background inks: Keith Williams
Lettering: John Costanza
Coloring: Tom Ziuko
Editing: Michael Carlin & Andy Helfer

SUPERMAN &
SUPERBOY
created by:
JERRY SIEGEL
and
JOE SHUSTER

I HAVE
NO CHOICE,
LEGIONNAIRES.

YOU MUST DIE,
SO THAT THE WHOLE
UNIVERSE CAN
LIVE!

THE...
STASIS...
RAY...

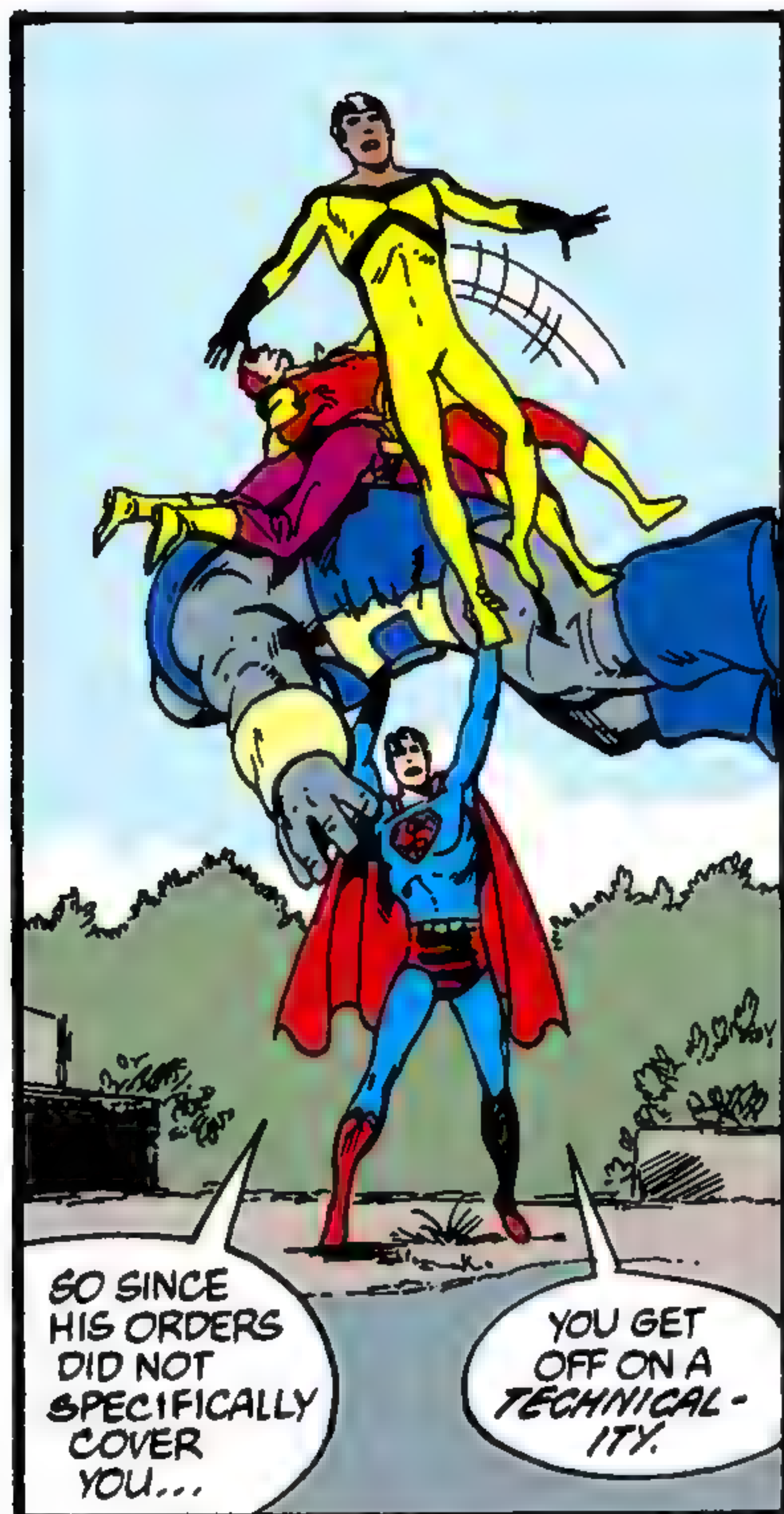
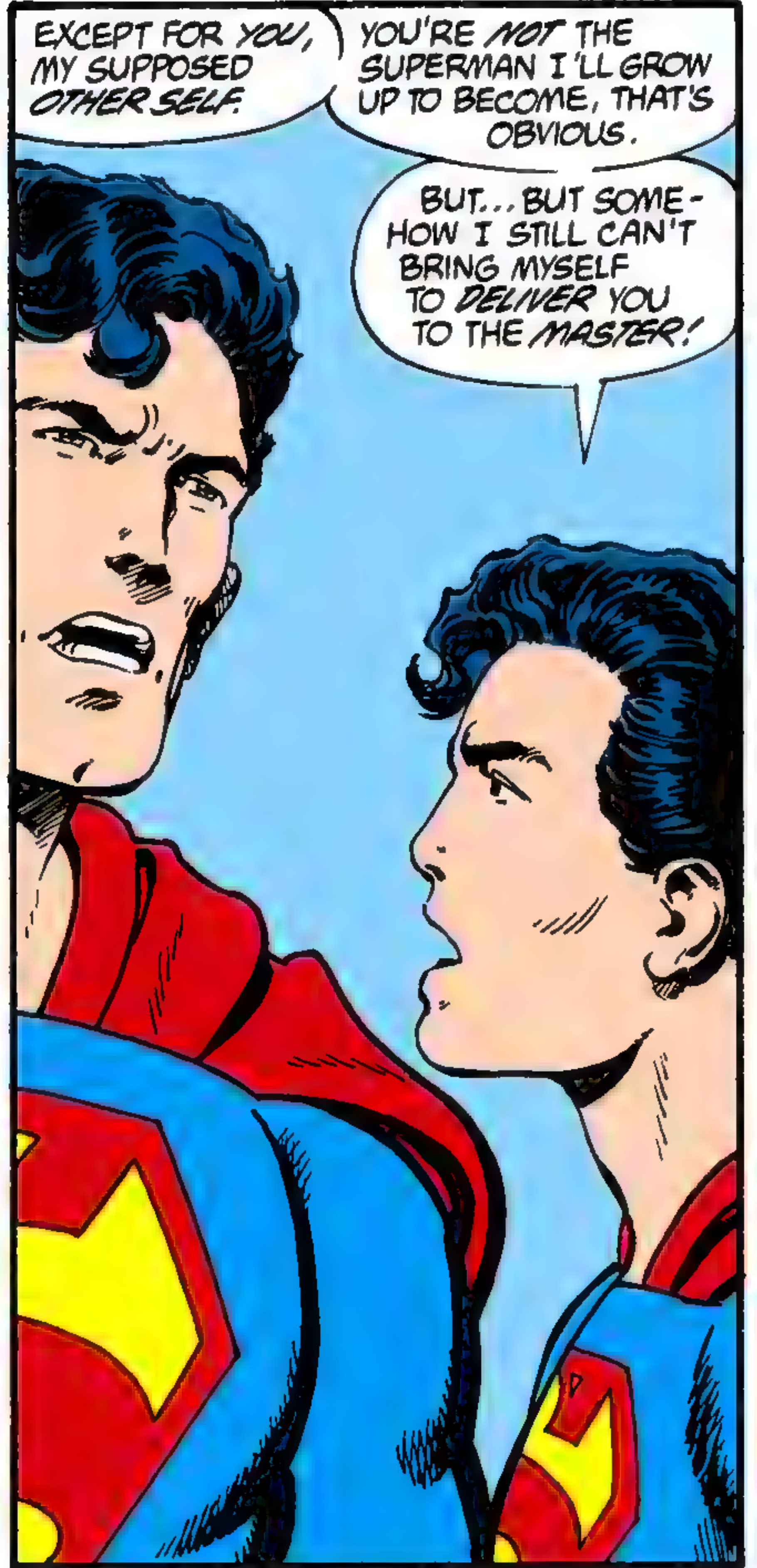
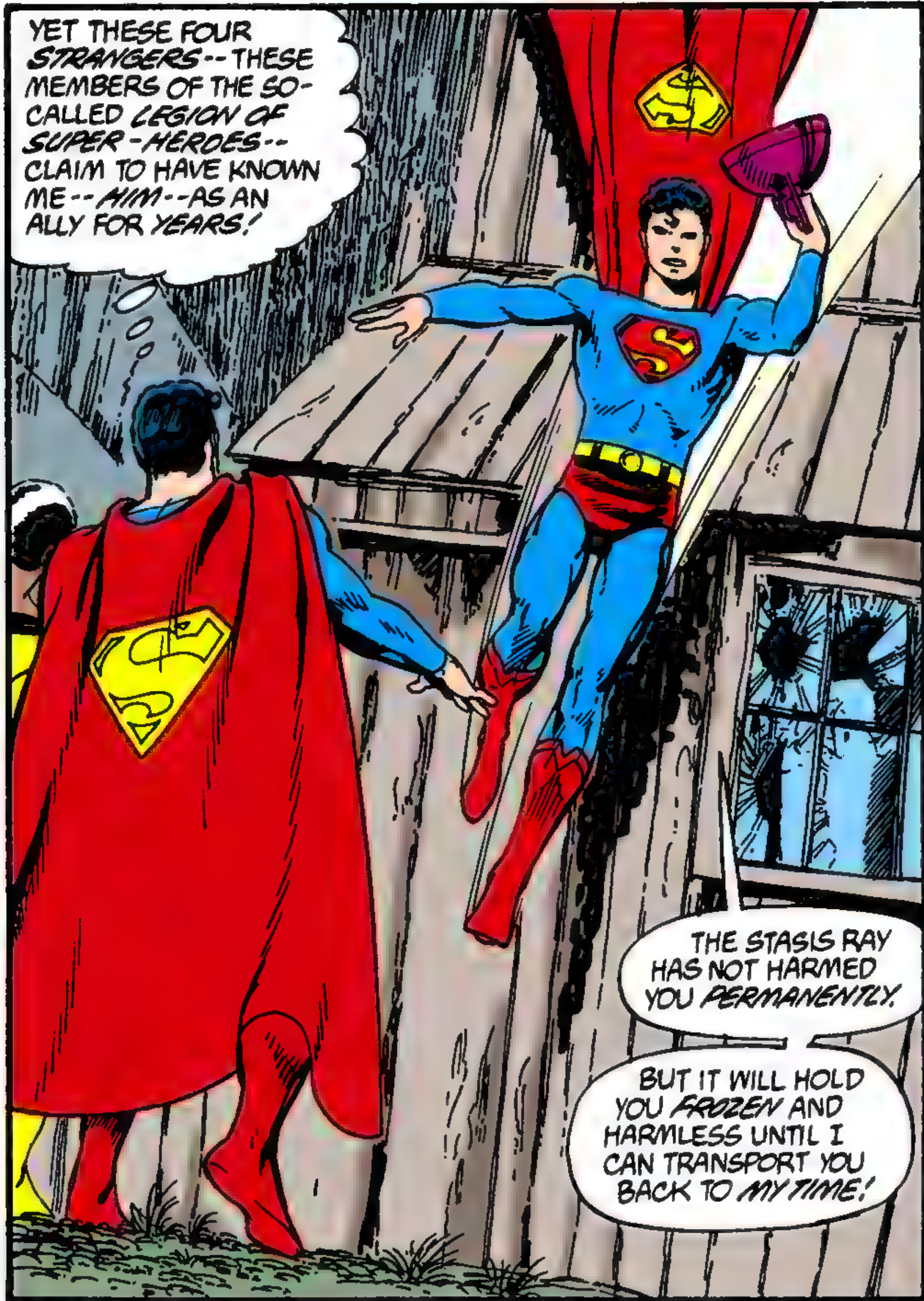
IT...IT CAN'T
BE! THE FACE!
THE VOICE!

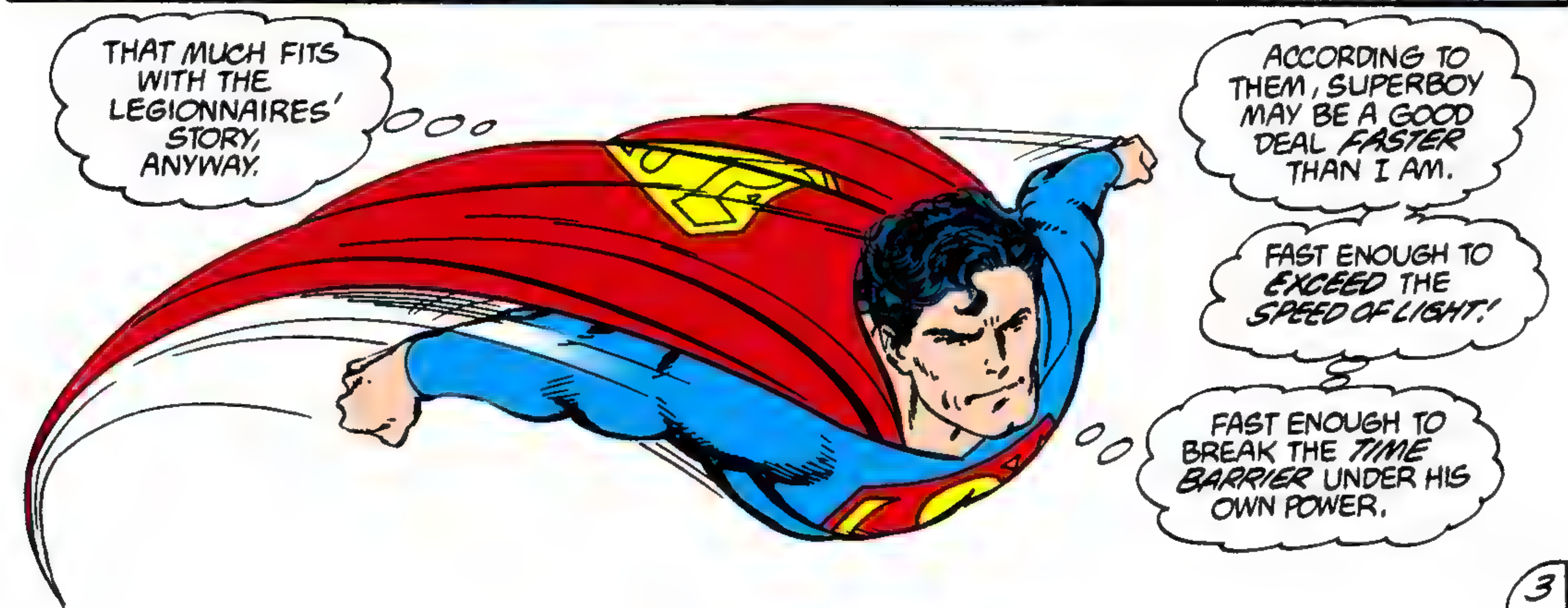
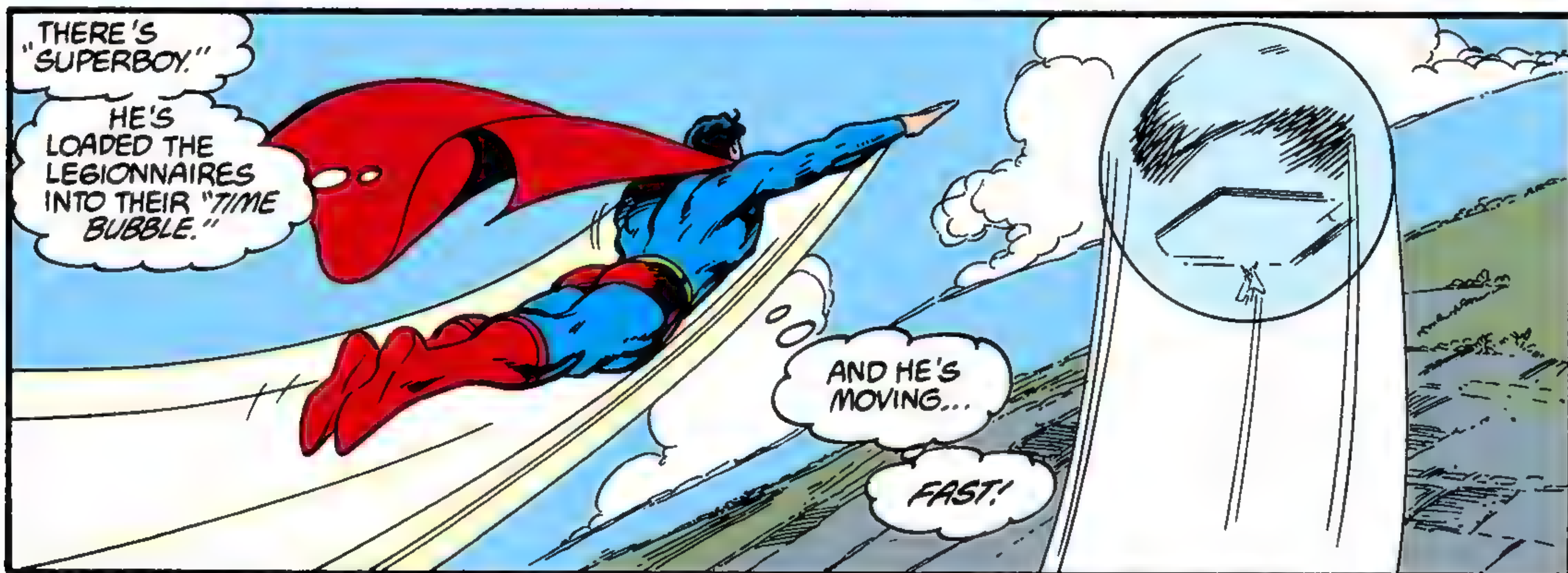
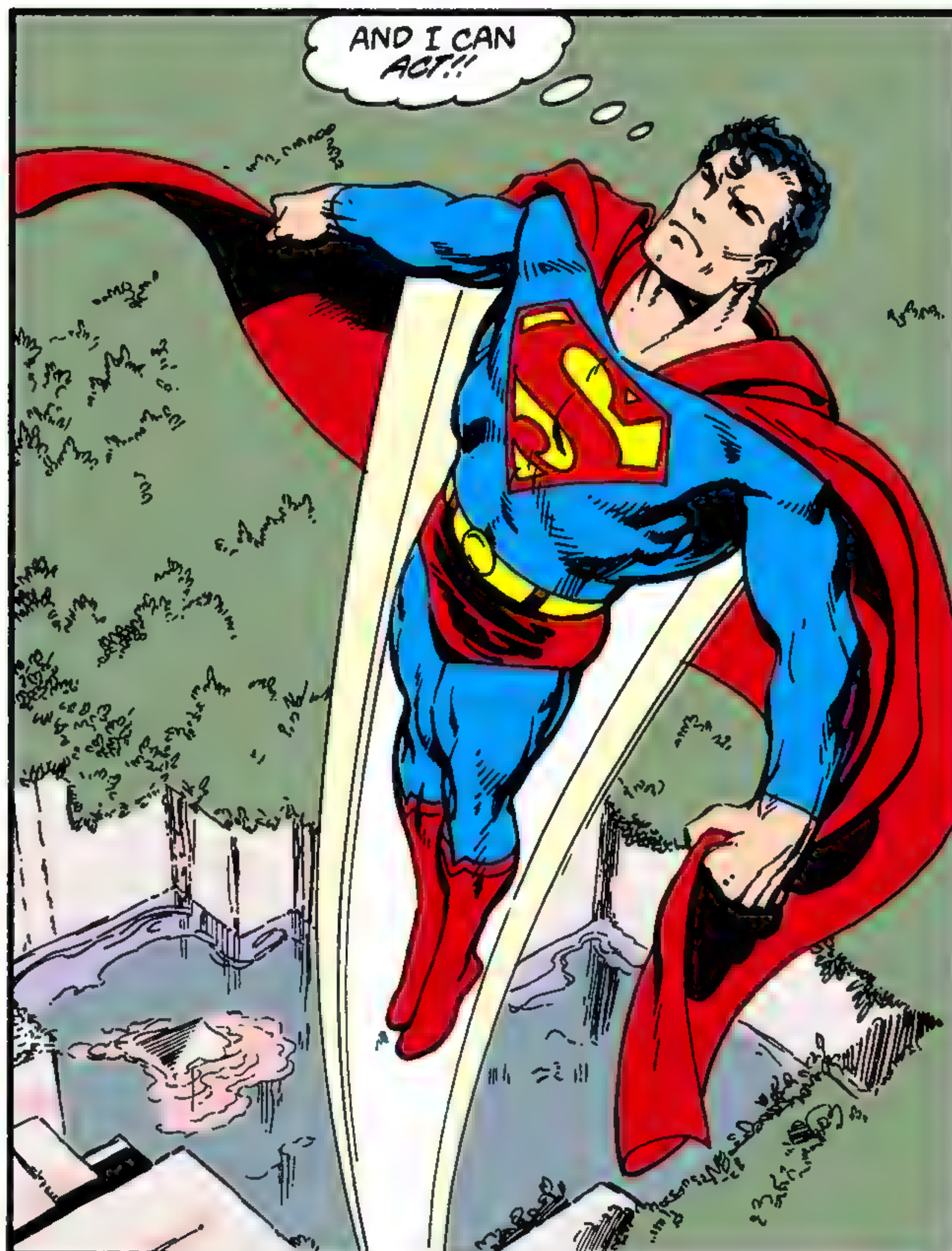
THAT'S ME!! ME
AS I WAS OVER A
DECADE AGO!

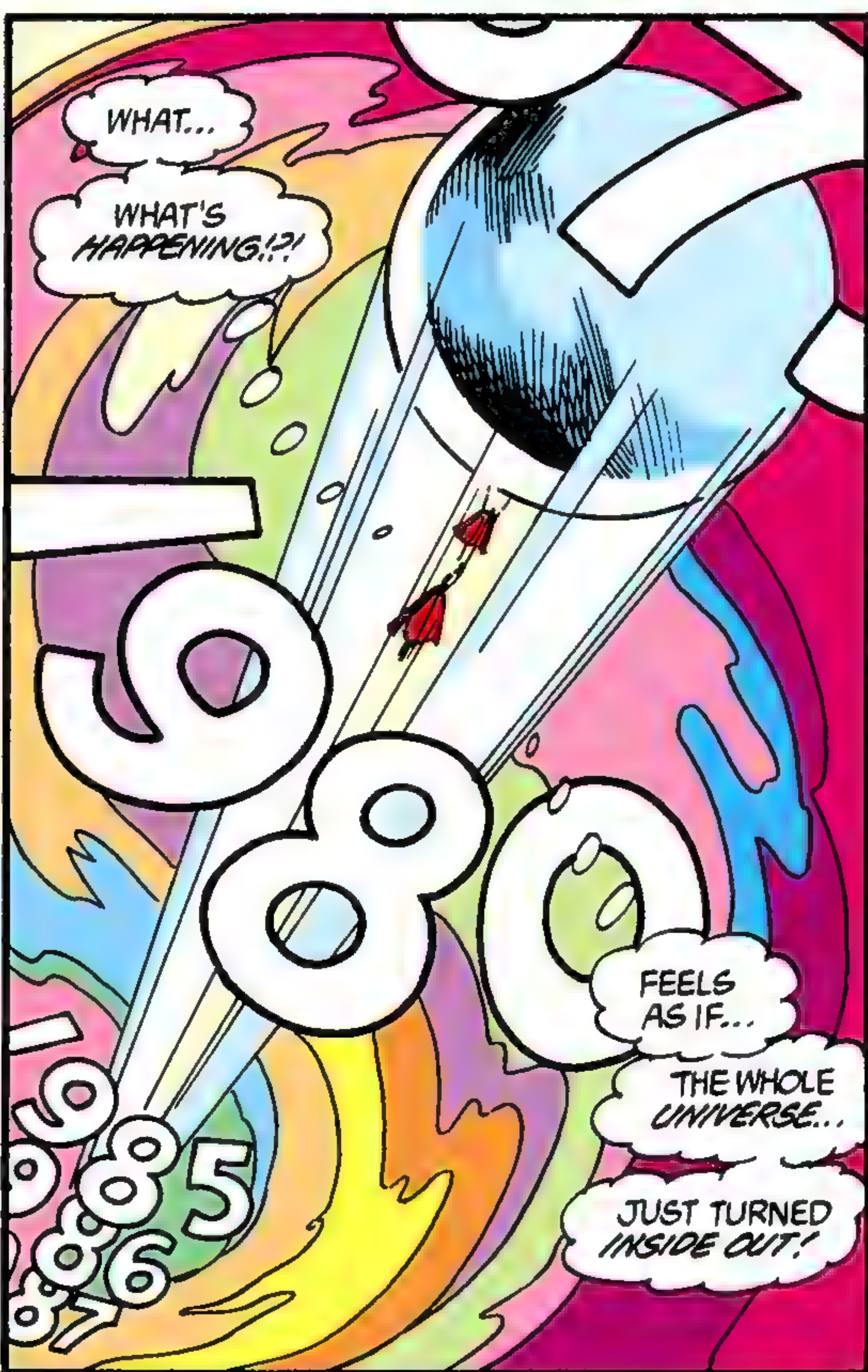
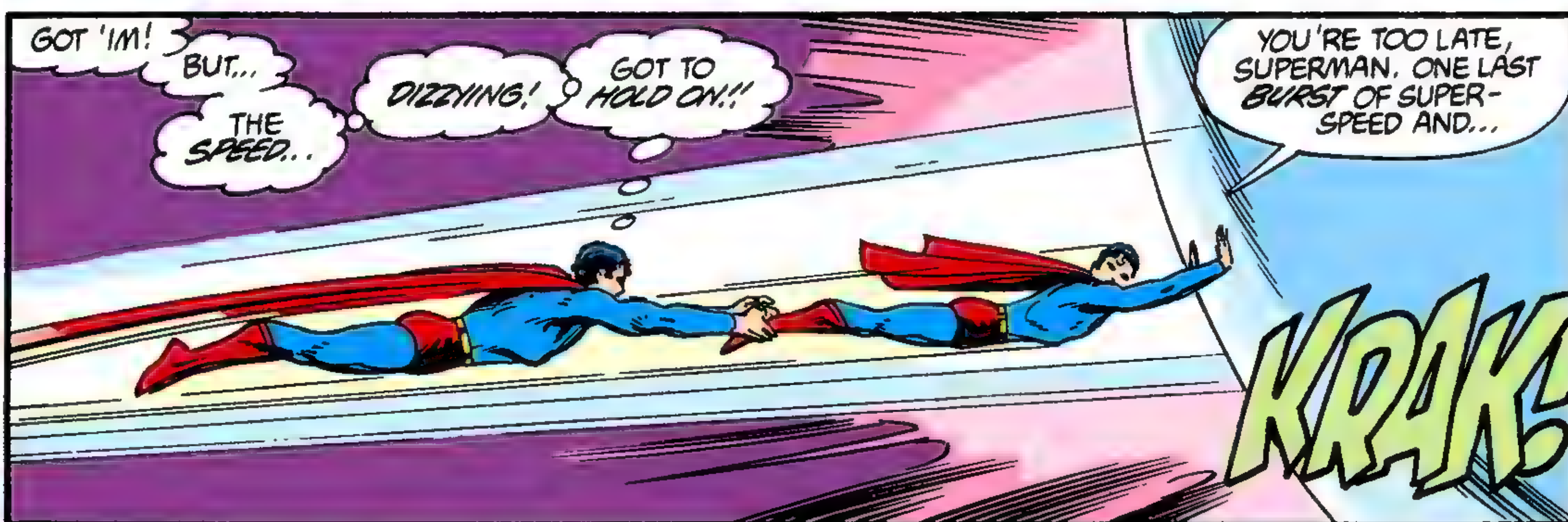
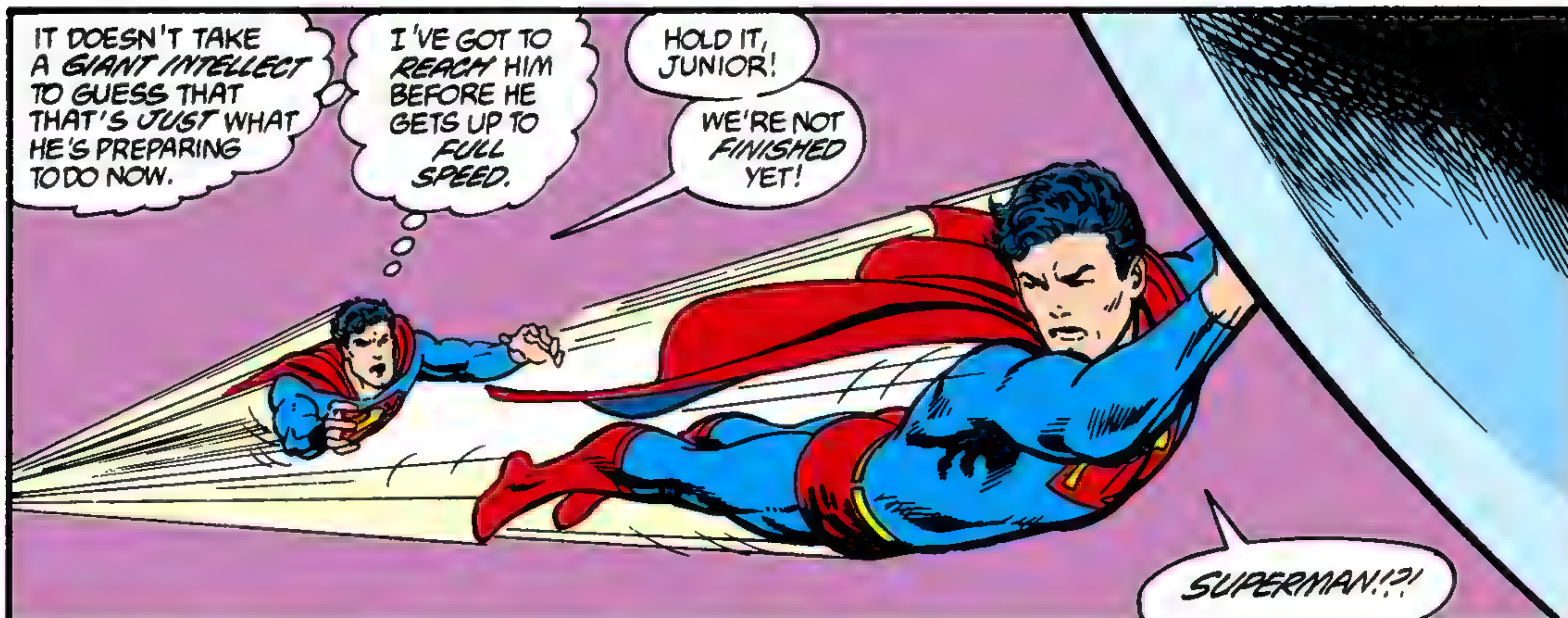
AND YET... I HADN'T
ADOPTED MY COSTUMED
IDENTITY THEN.

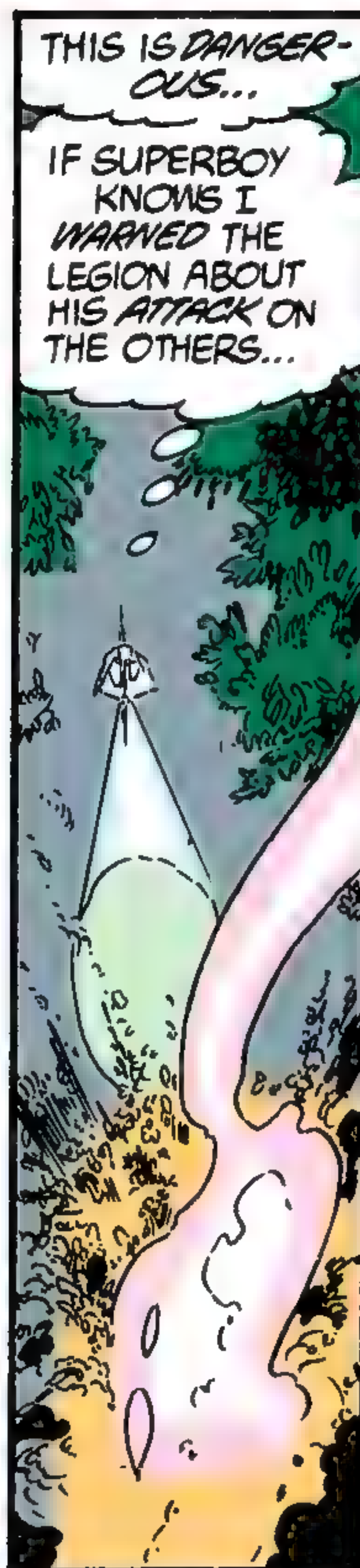
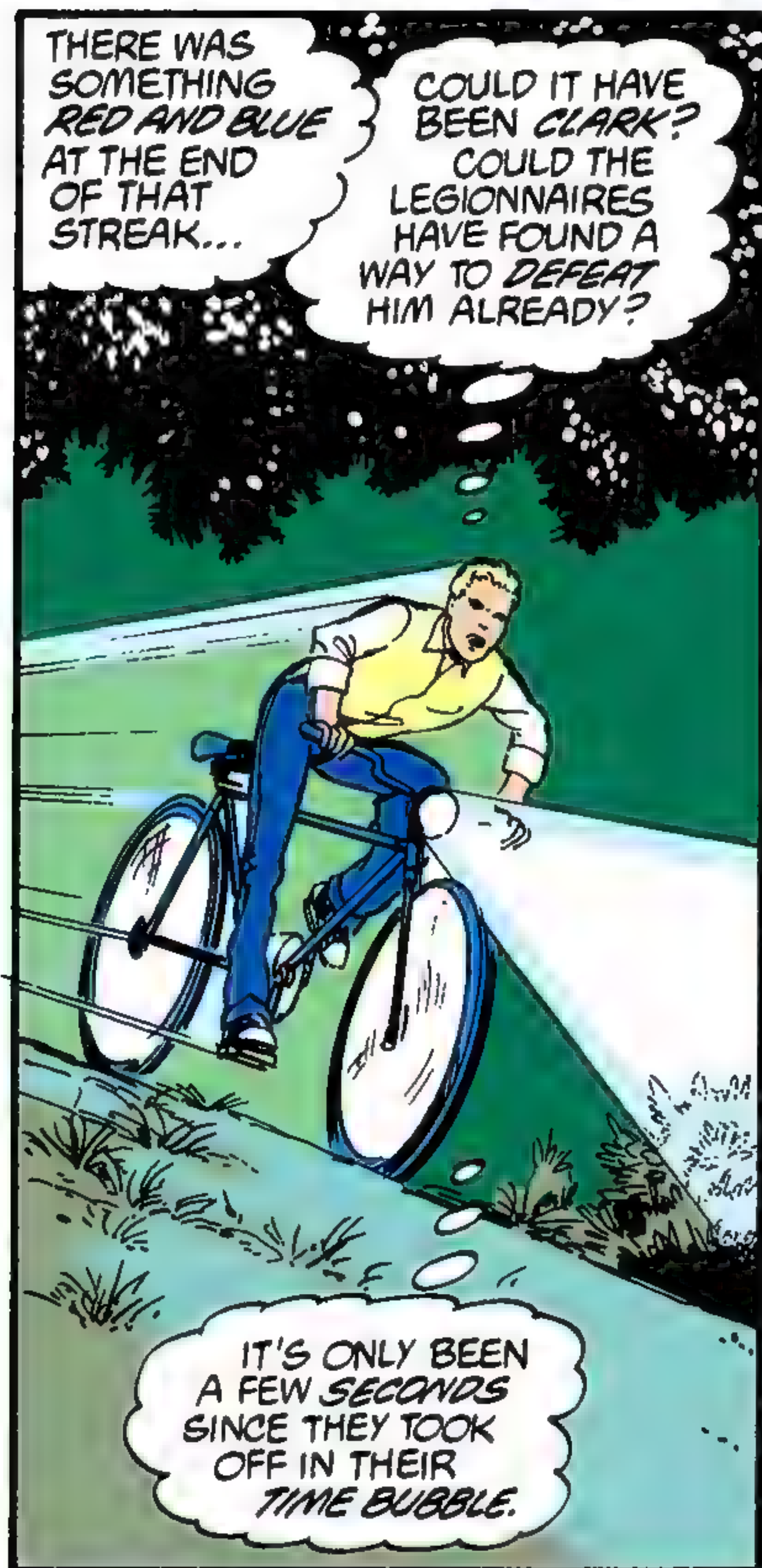
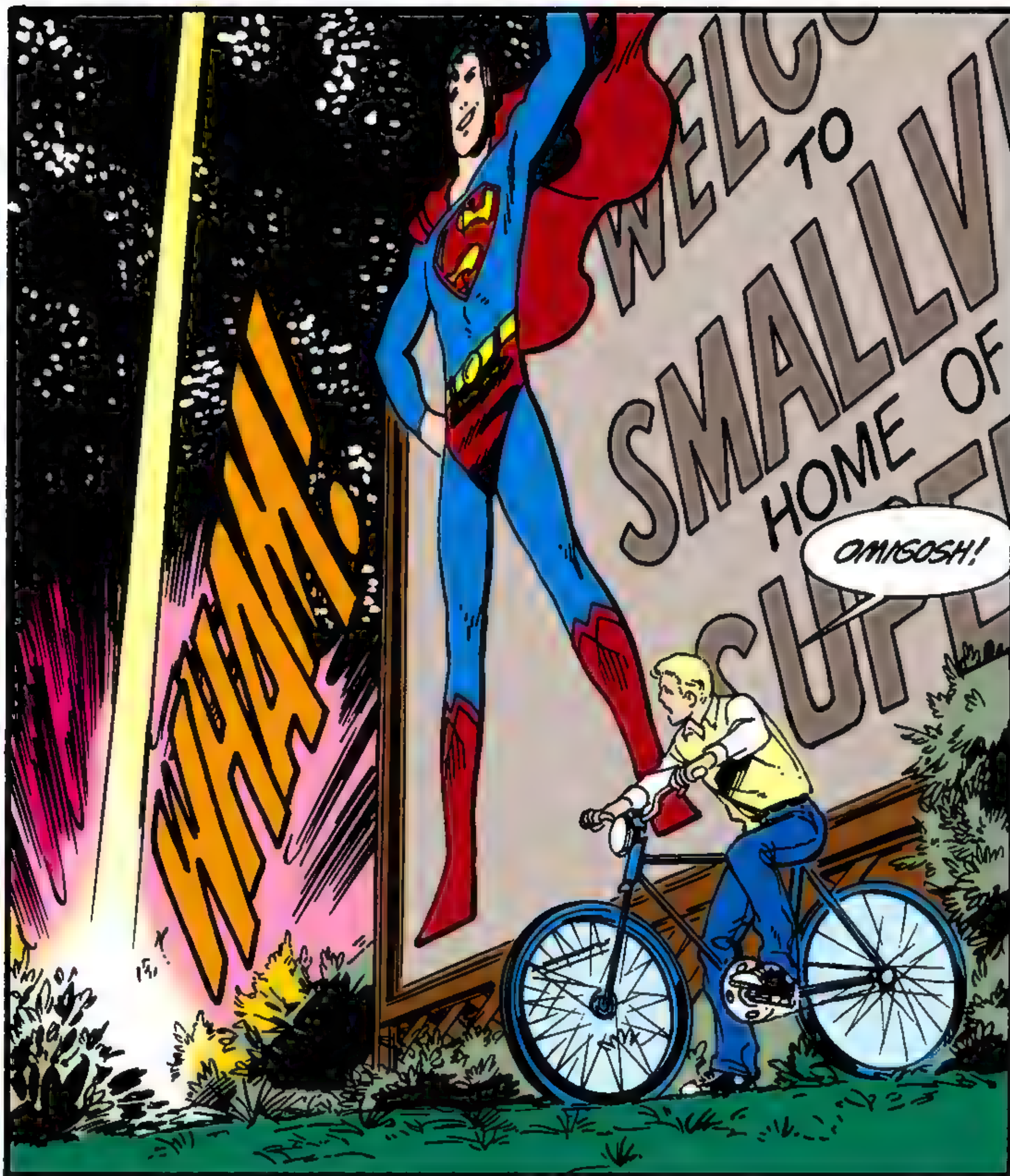
I NEVER WAS
SUPERBOY!!

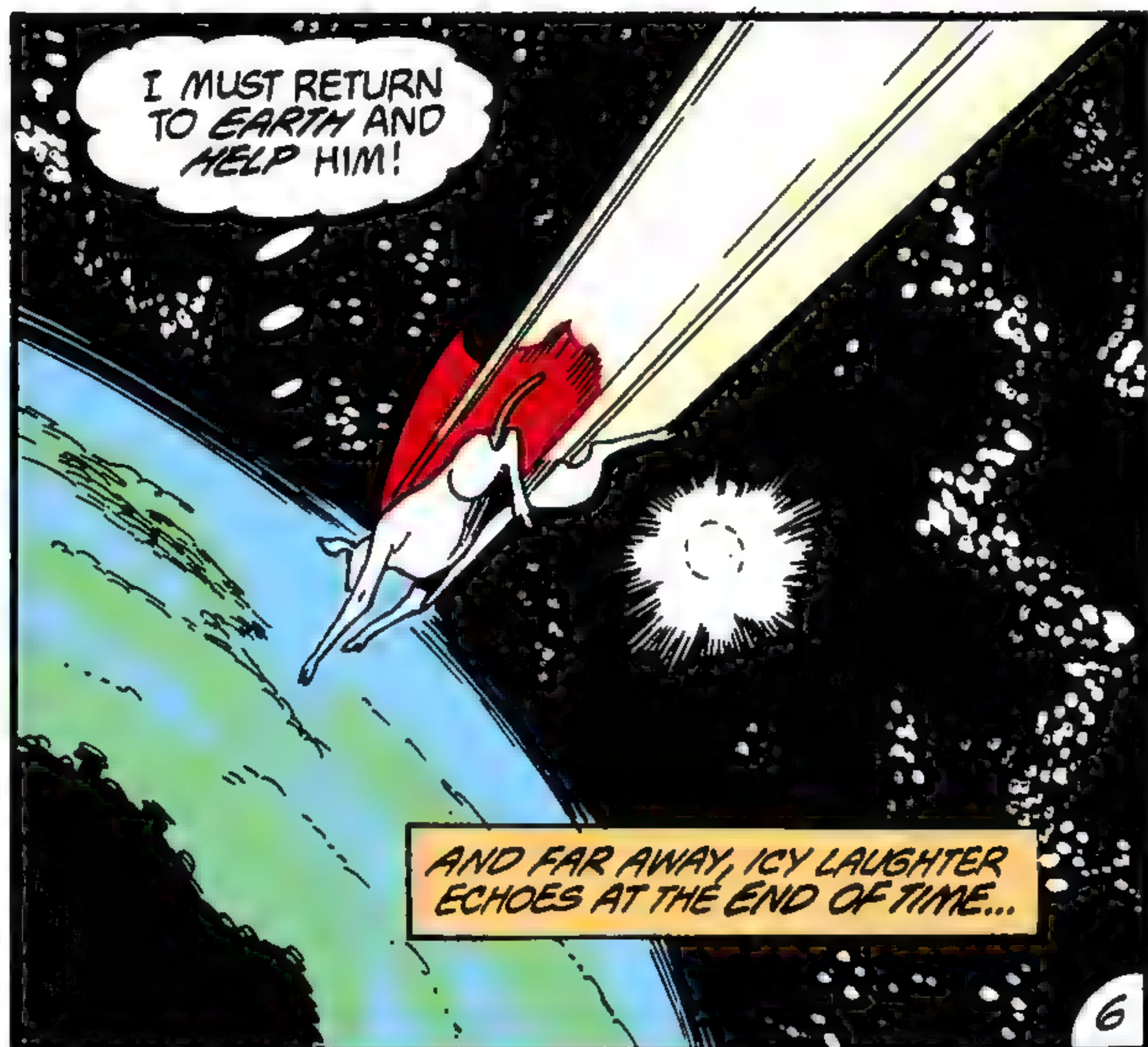
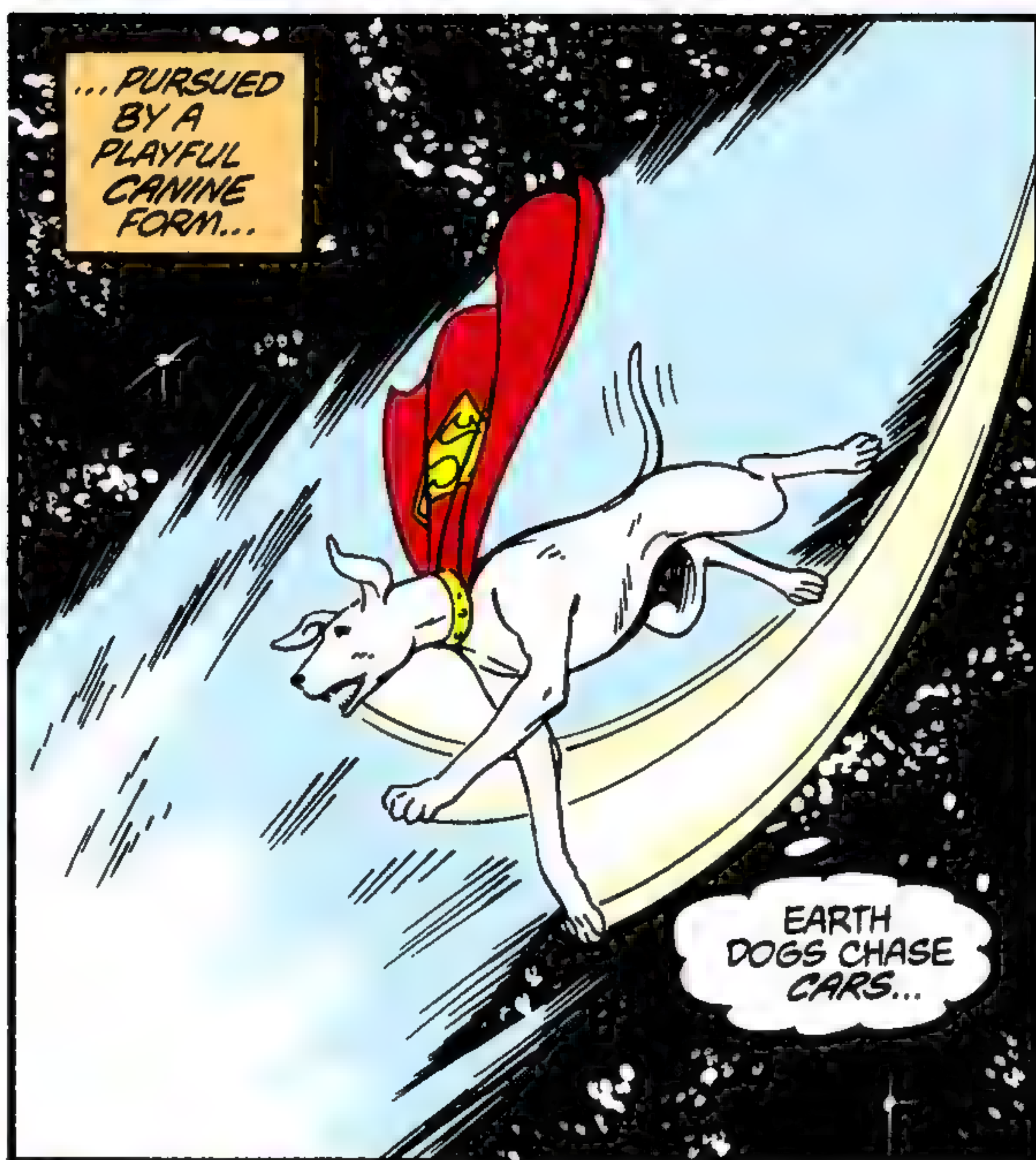
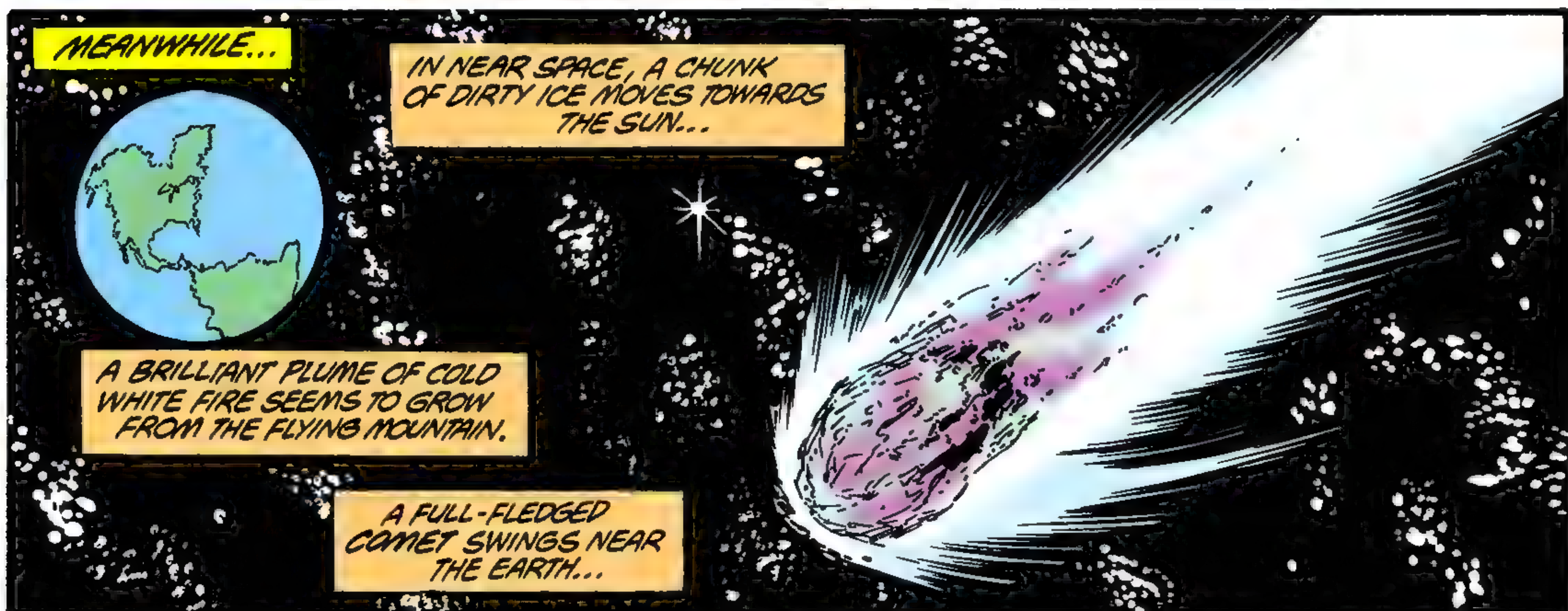
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AND THERE, IN A STRANGE
AND STARTLING CITADEL
UNTOUCHED BY TIME
AND SPACE...

A CREATURE THAT
DEFIES DESCRIPTION STUDIES THE
ENFOLDING FLOW OF THE AGES...



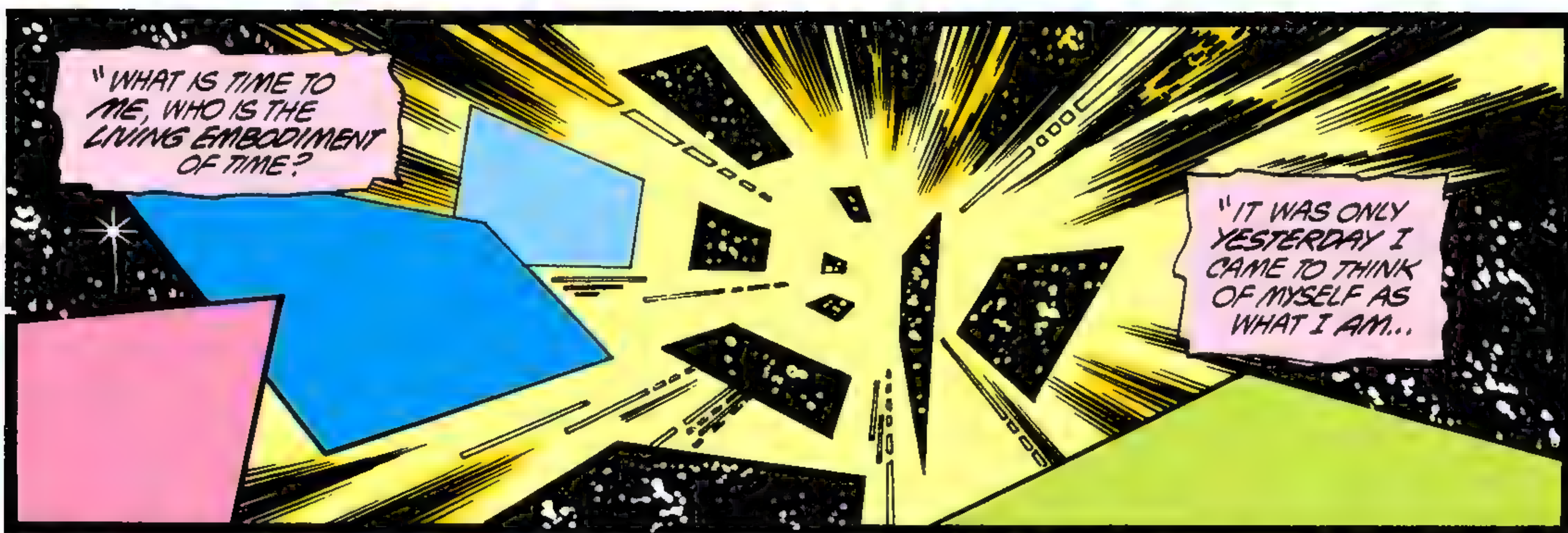
AND CONTEMPLATES
HIS VICTORY...

SOON.

VERY SOON
NOW--IF SUCH
PALTRY WORDS HAVE
ANY MEANING IN
THE GRAND SCHEME
OF THINGS.

MY PLAN
ENCOMPASSES
A MILLION YEARS
AS HUMANS
MEASURE TIME.

YET EVERY MOMENT
CAN BE CAPTURED IN
THE SINGLE BEAT OF A
DYING HEART.



"WHAT IS TIME TO
ME, WHO IS THE
LIVING EMBODIMENT
OF TIME?"

"IT WAS ONLY
YESTERDAY I
CAME TO THINK
OF MYSELF AS
WHAT I AM..."

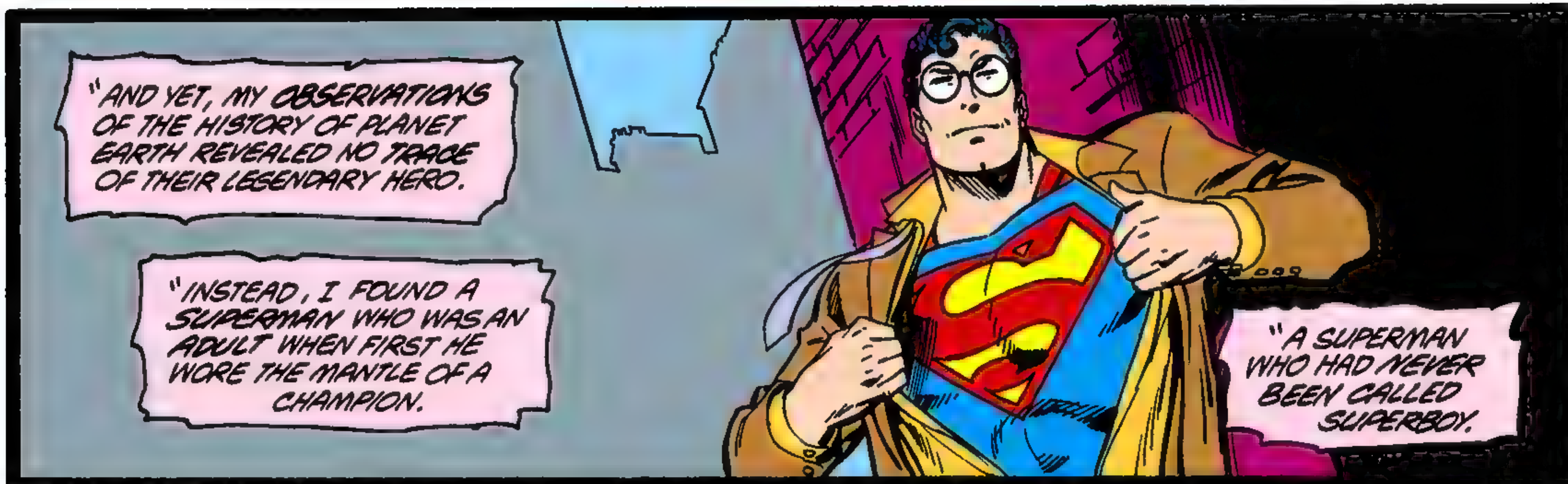


"YET, SINCE THAT
YESTERDAY, ETERNITY
HAS PASSED, AND
PASSED AGAIN..."

"WHILE I HAVE
WATCHED AND
PLOTTED..."

THESE YOUNG HUMANS
MODEL THEMSELVES AFTER
LEGENDS OF THE GREATEST
HERO OF THEM ALL...

... A LONG-
VANISHED
CHAMPION KNOWN
AS SUPERBOY!



"AND YET, MY OBSERVATIONS OF THE HISTORY OF PLANET EARTH REVEALED NO TRACE OF THEIR LEGENDARY HERO.

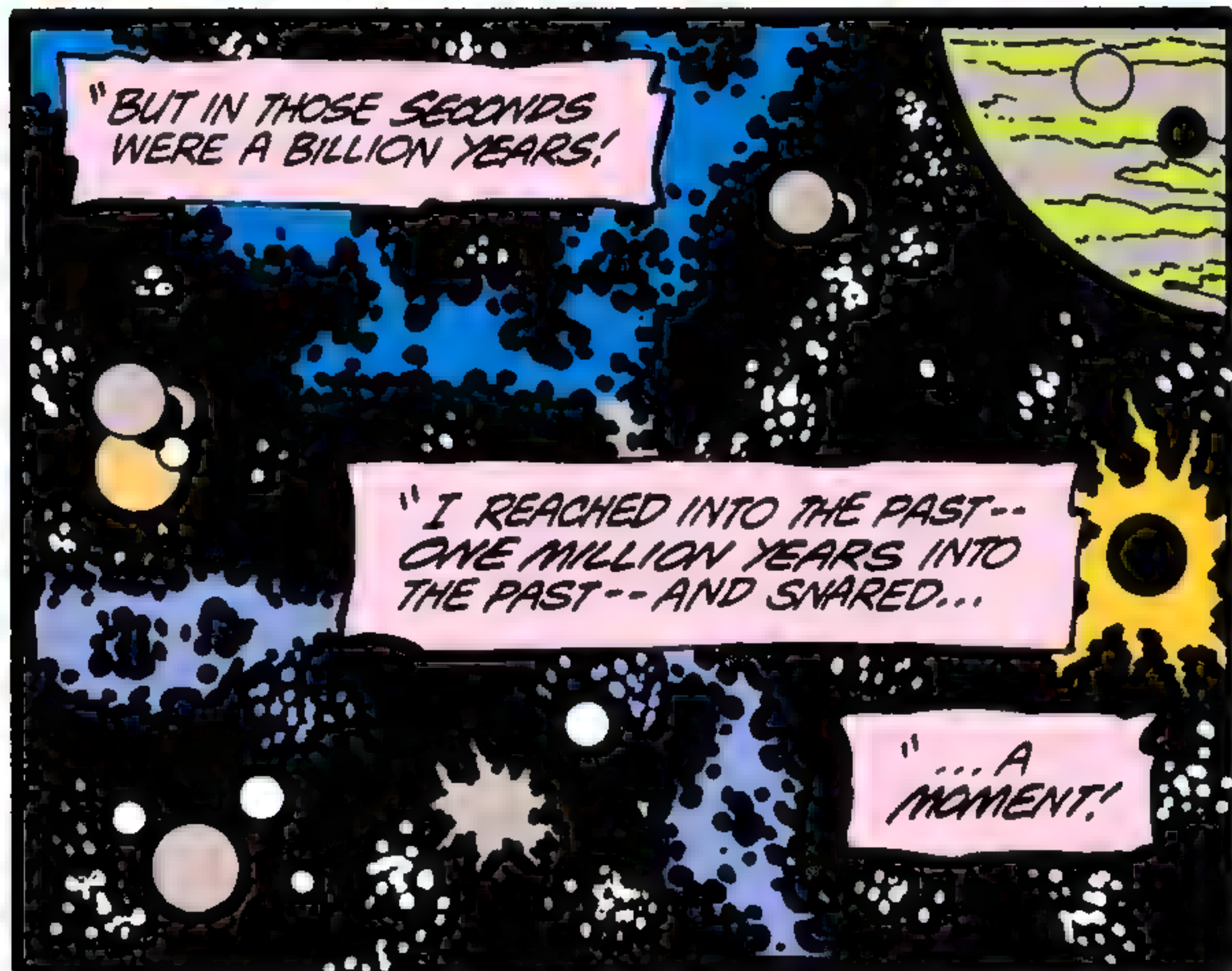
"INSTEAD, I FOUND A SUPERMAN WHO WAS AN ADULT WHEN FIRST HE WORE THE MANTLE OF A CHAMPION.

"A SUPERMAN WHO HAD NEVER BEEN CALLED SUPERBOY.



"OBSERVING THEN THAT THE SO-CALLED LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, IGNORANT OF THIS TEMPORAL DISCREPANCY, INTENDED TO USE A RECENTLY INVENTED TIME MACHINE TO VISIT THEIR HERO...

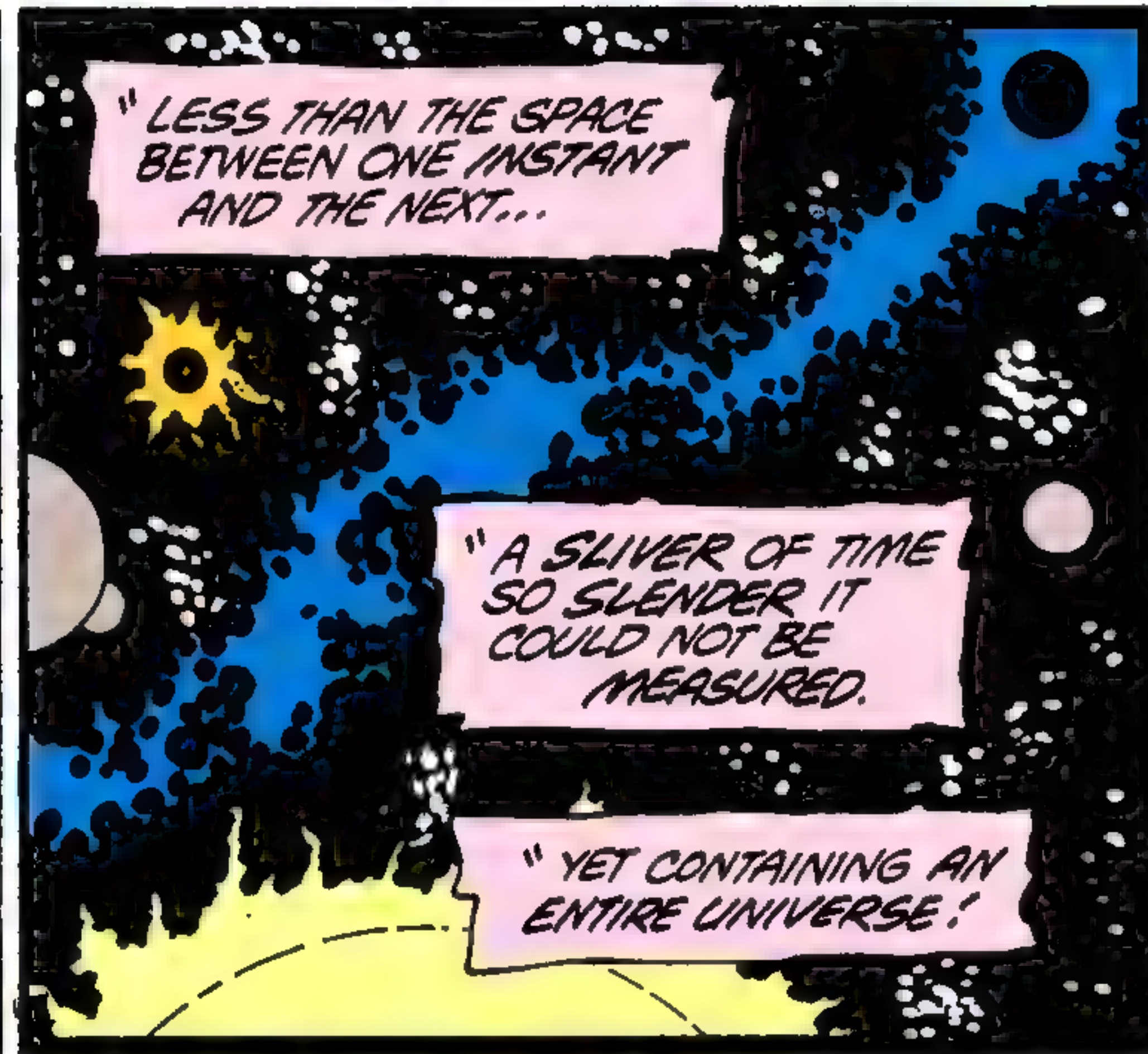
"I REALIZED I HAD BUT SECONDS TO ACT.



"BUT IN THOSE SECONDS WERE A BILLION YEARS!

"I REACHED INTO THE PAST-- ONE MILLION YEARS INTO THE PAST-- AND SNARED...

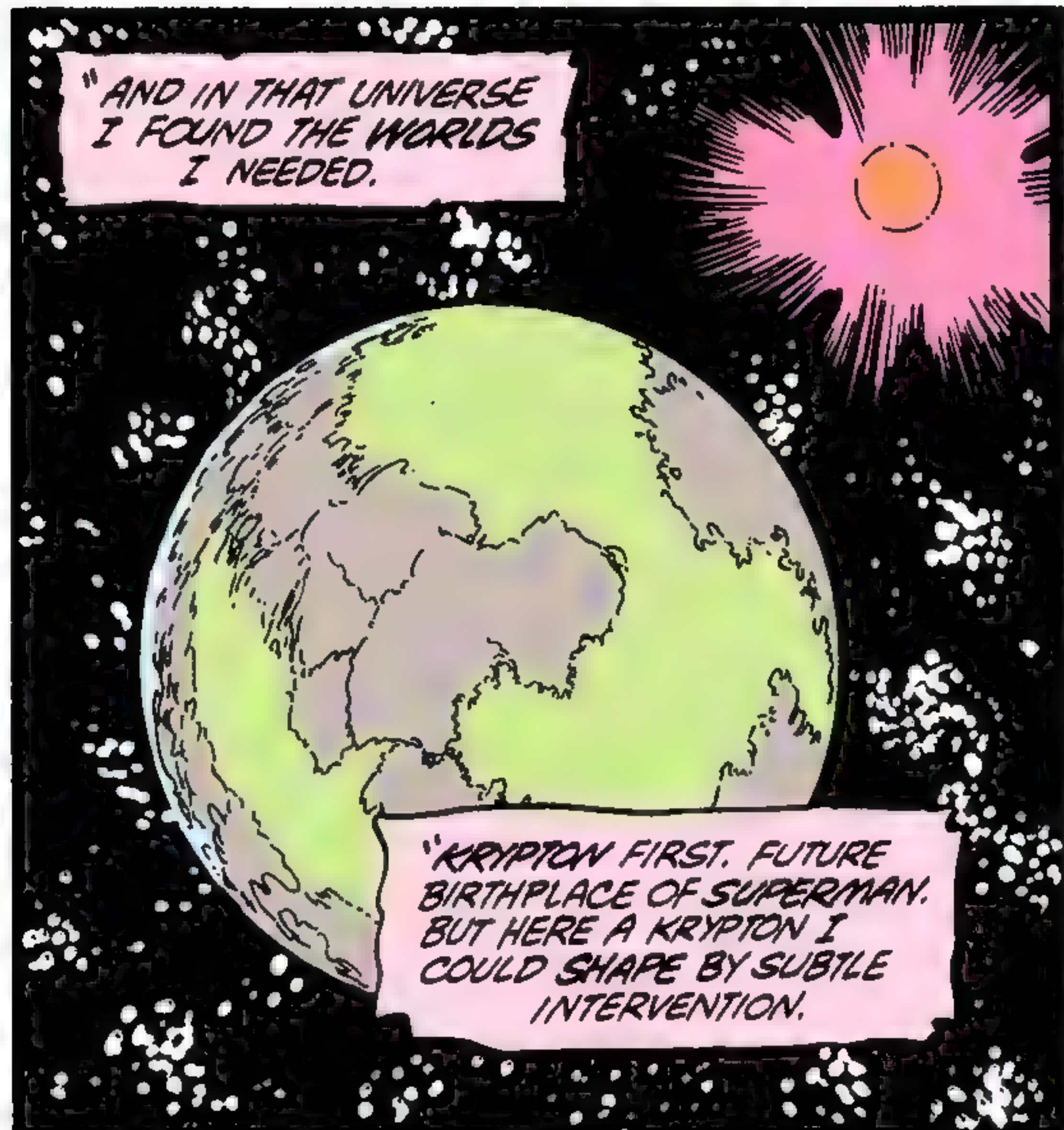
"...A MOMENT!



"LESS THAN THE SPACE BETWEEN ONE INSTANT AND THE NEXT...

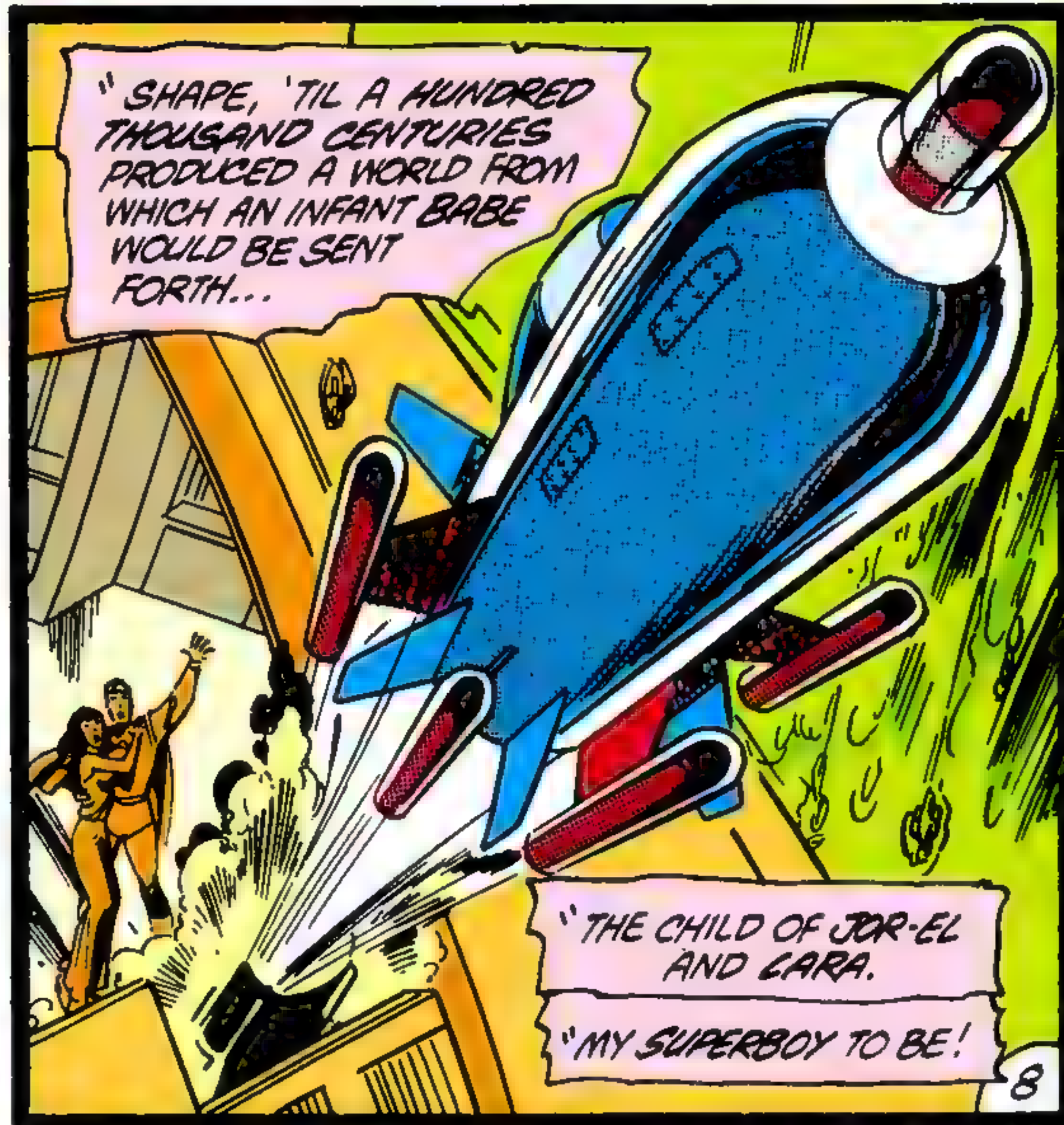
"A SLIVER OF TIME SO SLENDER IT COULD NOT BE MEASURED.

"YET CONTAINING AN ENTIRE UNIVERSE!"



"AND IN THAT UNIVERSE I FOUND THE WORLDS I NEEDED.

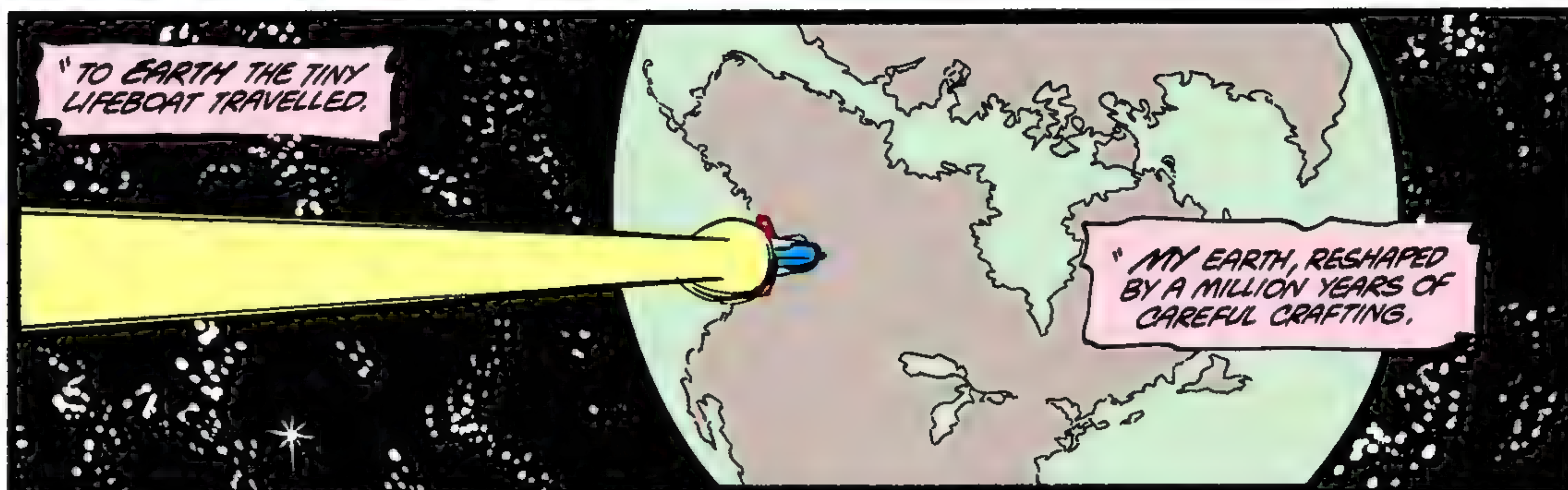
"KRYPTON FIRST, FUTURE BIRTHPLACE OF SUPERMAN. BUT HERE A KRYPTON I COULD SHAPE BY SUBTLE INTERVENTION.



"SHAPE, 'TIL A HUNDRED THOUSAND CENTURIES PRODUCED A WORLD FROM WHICH AN INFANT BABE WOULD BE SENT FORTH...

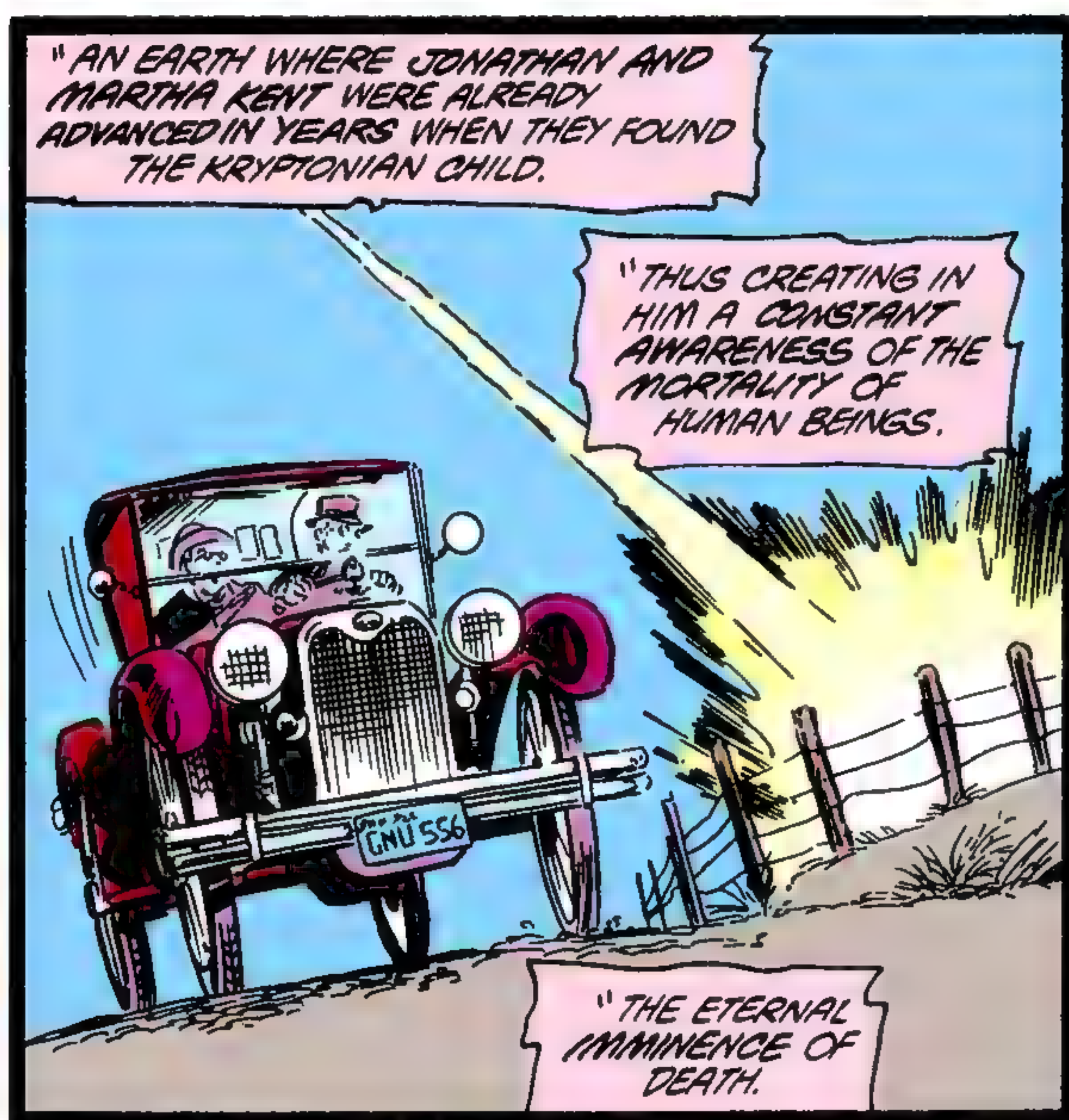
"THE CHILD OF JOR-EL AND LARA.

"MY SUPERBOY TO BE!"



"TO EARTH THE TINY LIFEBOAT TRAVELLED.

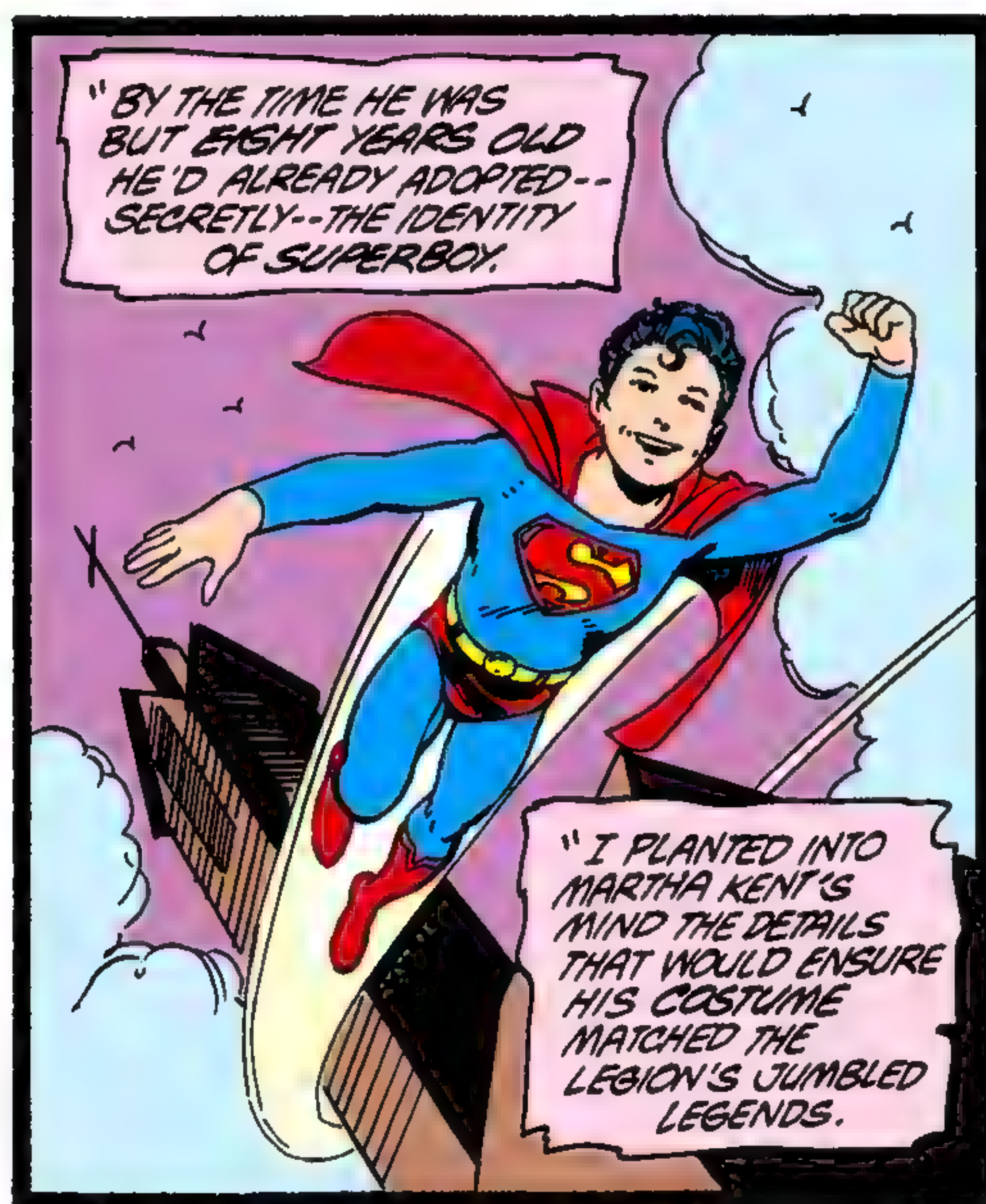
"MY EARTH, RESHAPED BY A MILLION YEARS OF CAREFUL CRAFTING.



"AN EARTH WHERE JONATHAN AND MARTHA KENT WERE ALREADY ADVANCED IN YEARS WHEN THEY FOUND THE KRYPTONIAN CHILD.

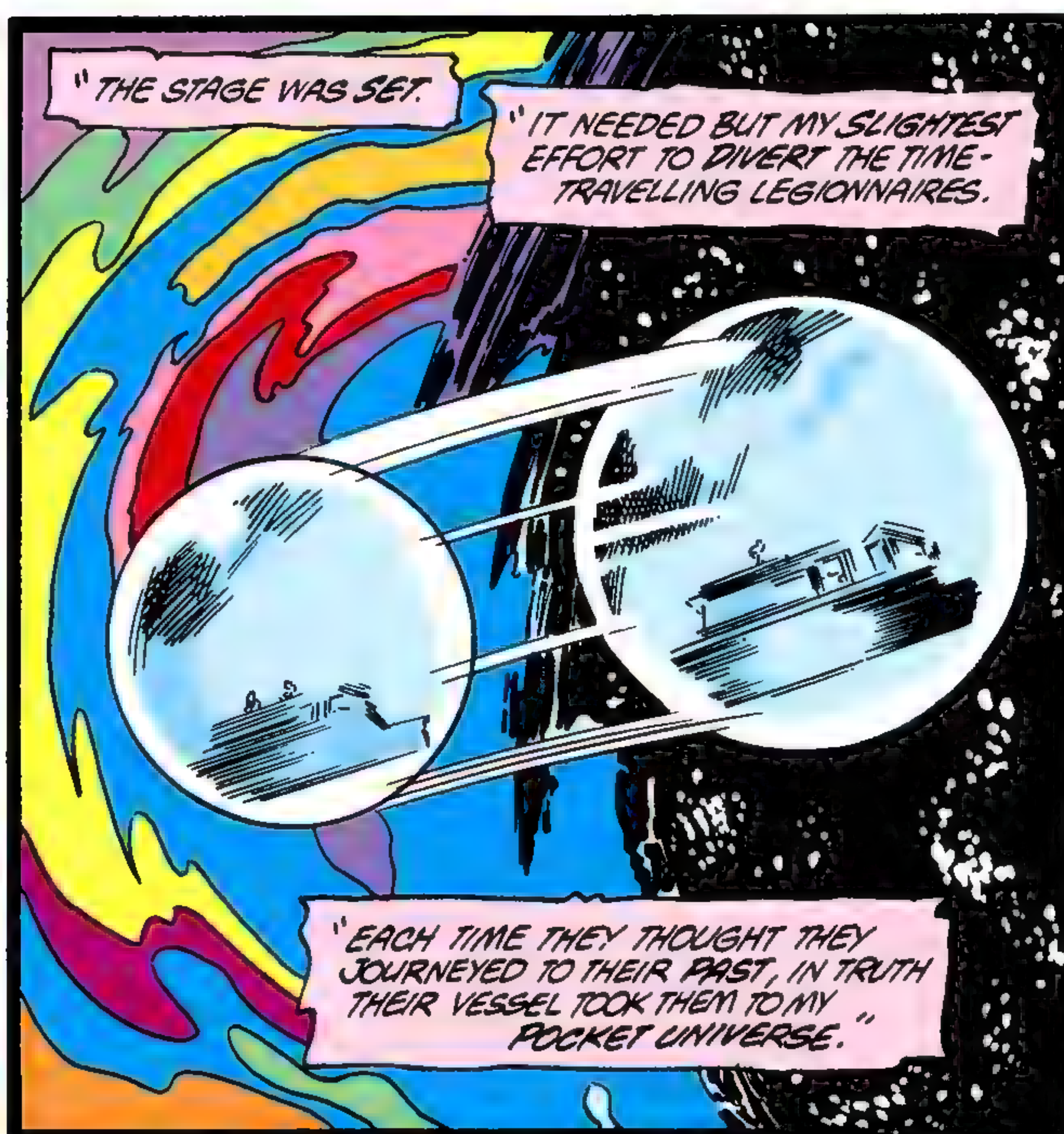
"THUS CREATING IN HIM A CONSTANT AWARENESS OF THE MORTALITY OF HUMAN BEINGS.

"THE ETERNAL IMMINENCE OF DEATH.



"BY THE TIME HE WAS BUT EIGHT YEARS OLD HE'D ALREADY ADOPTED-- SECRETLY--THE IDENTITY OF SUPERBOY.

"I PLANTED INTO MARTHA KENT'S MIND THE DETAILS THAT WOULD ENSURE HIS COSTUME MATCHED THE LEGION'S JUMBLED LEGENDS.



"THE STAGE WAS SET.

"IT NEEDED BUT MY SLIGHTEST EFFORT TO DIVERT THE TIME-TRAVELLING LEGIONNAIRES.

"EACH TIME THEY THOUGHT THEY JOURNEYED TO THEIR PAST, IN TRUTH THEIR VESSEL TOOK THEM TO MY POCKET UNIVERSE."

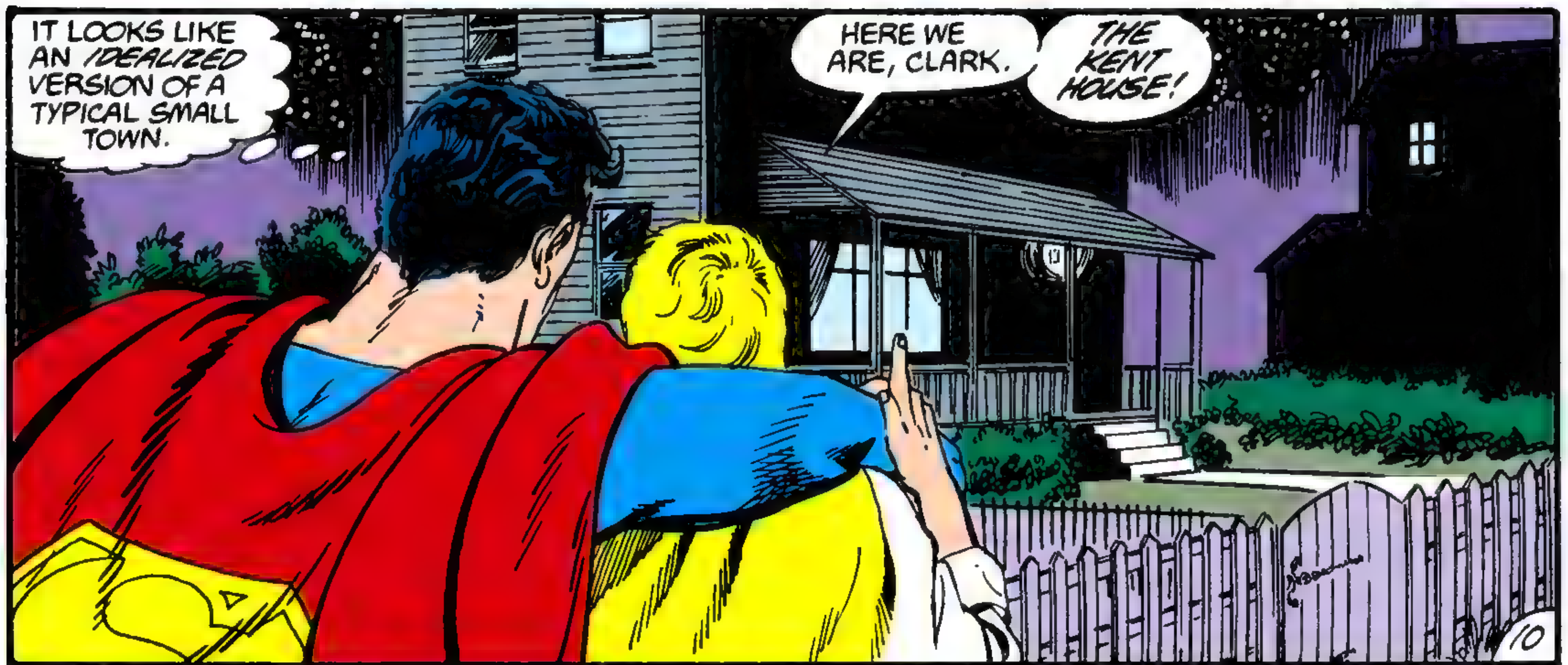
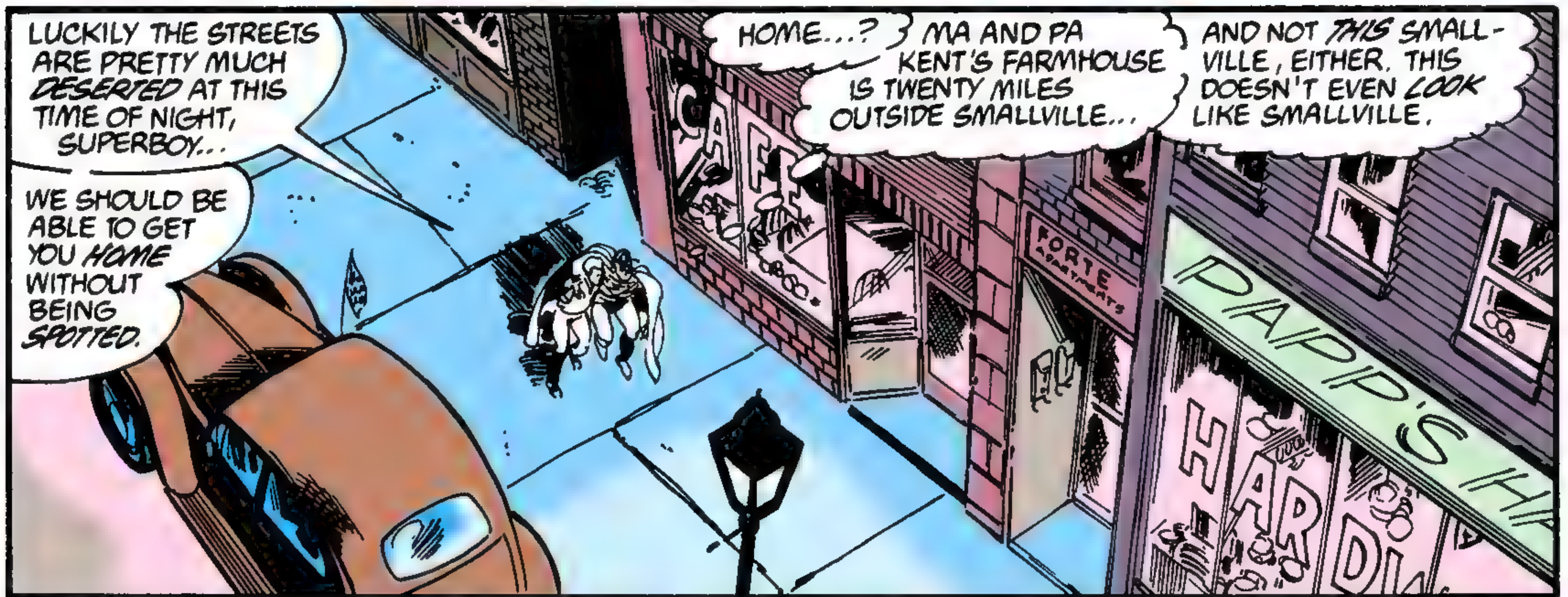
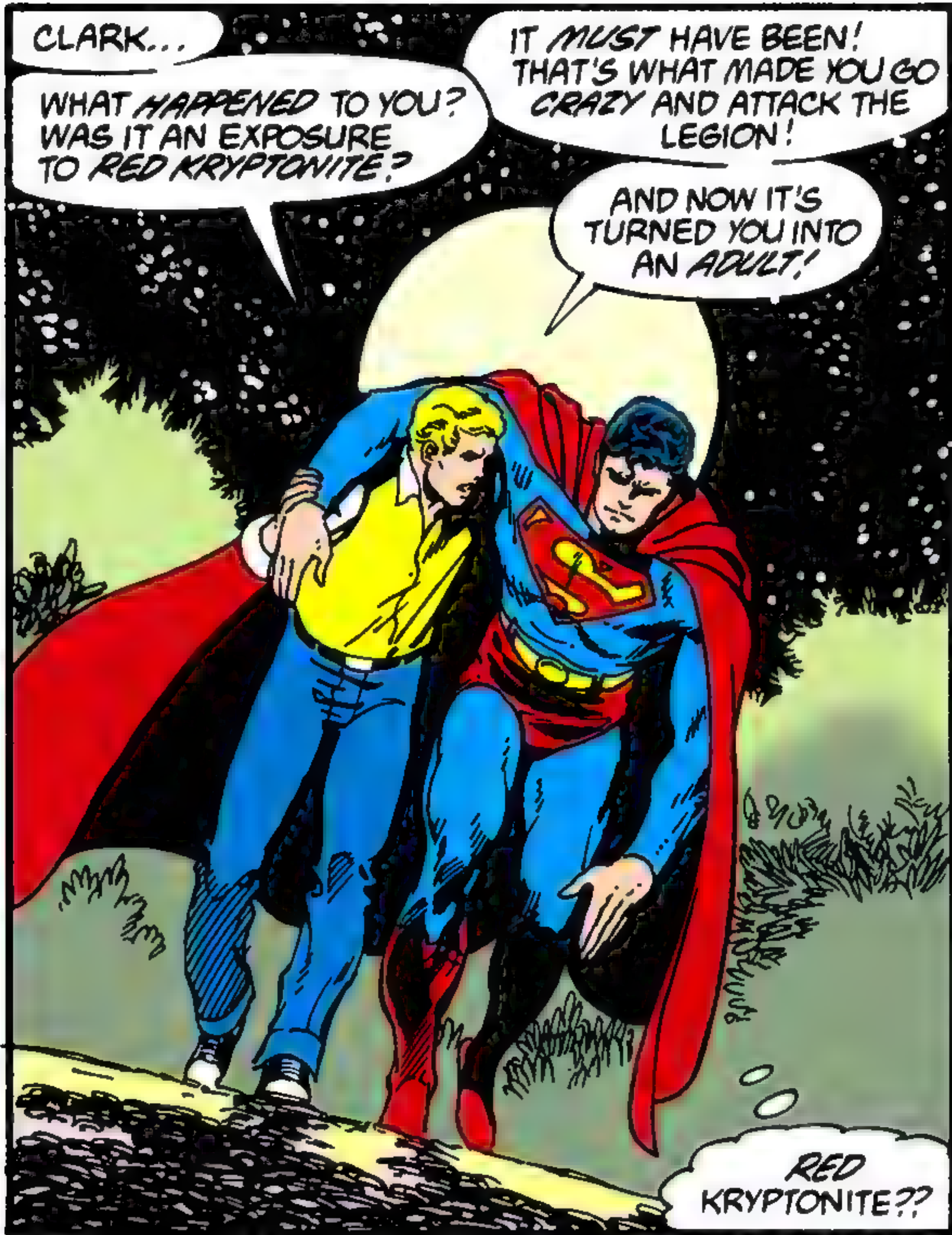


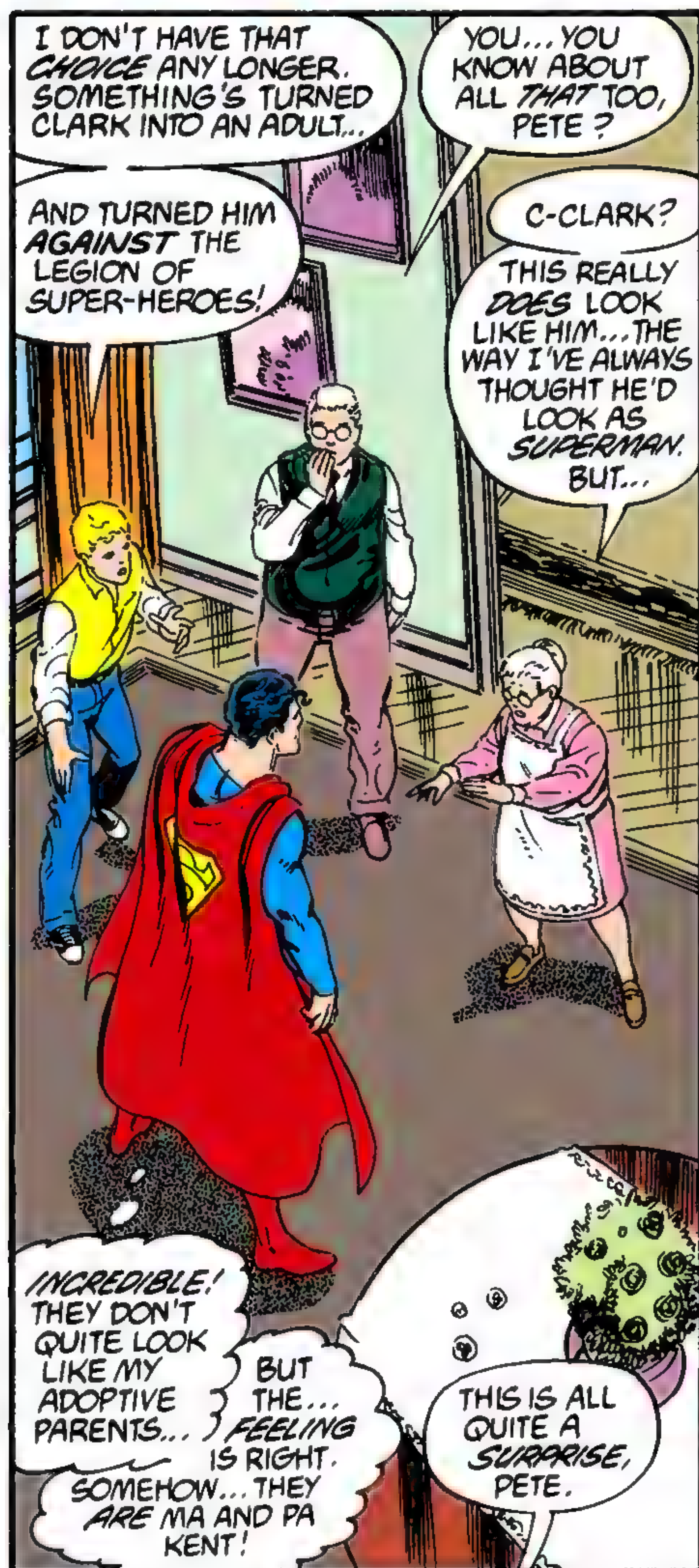
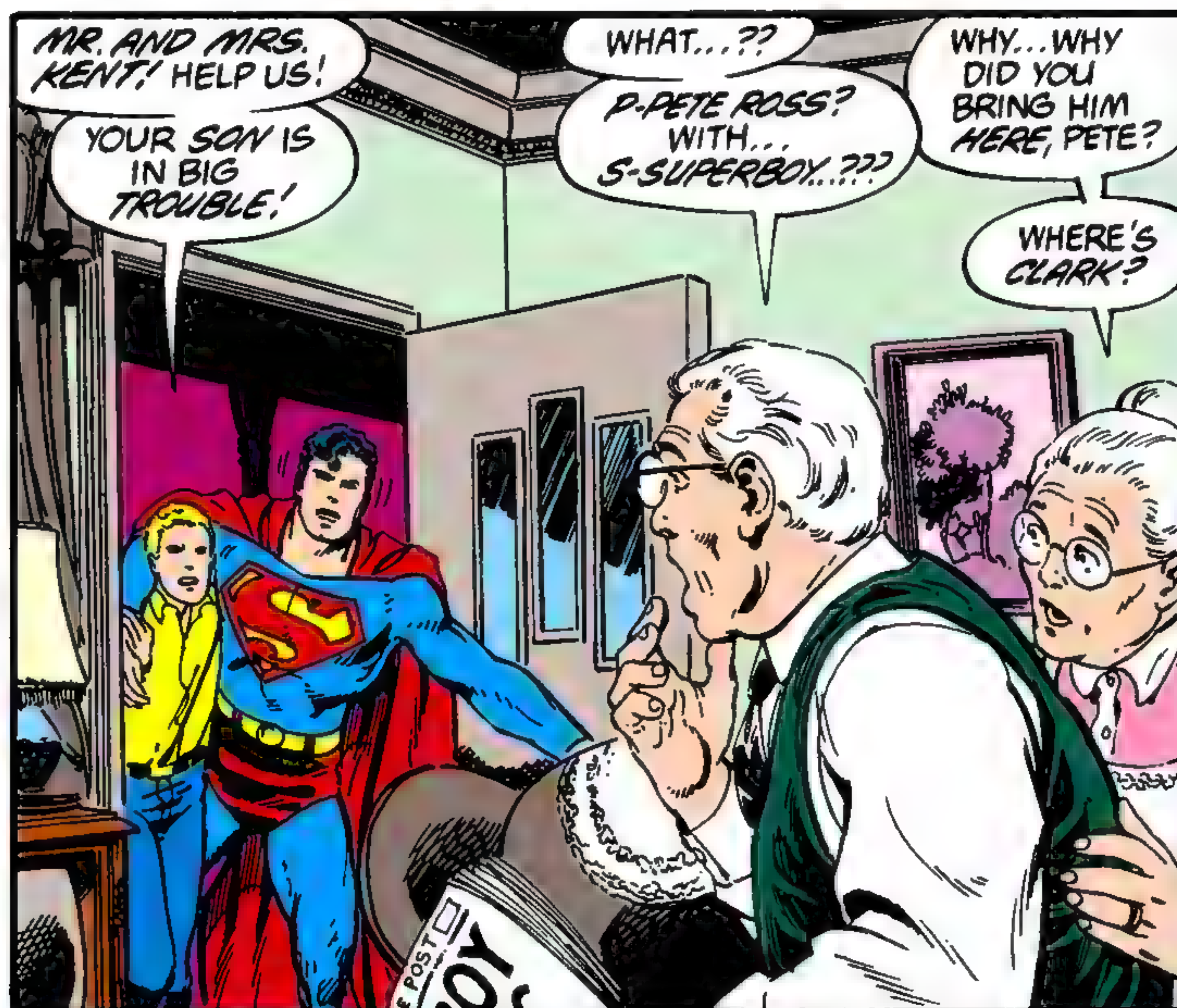
AND THEN, WHEN DESTRUCTION THREATENED ALL REALITIES, EVEN MINE...

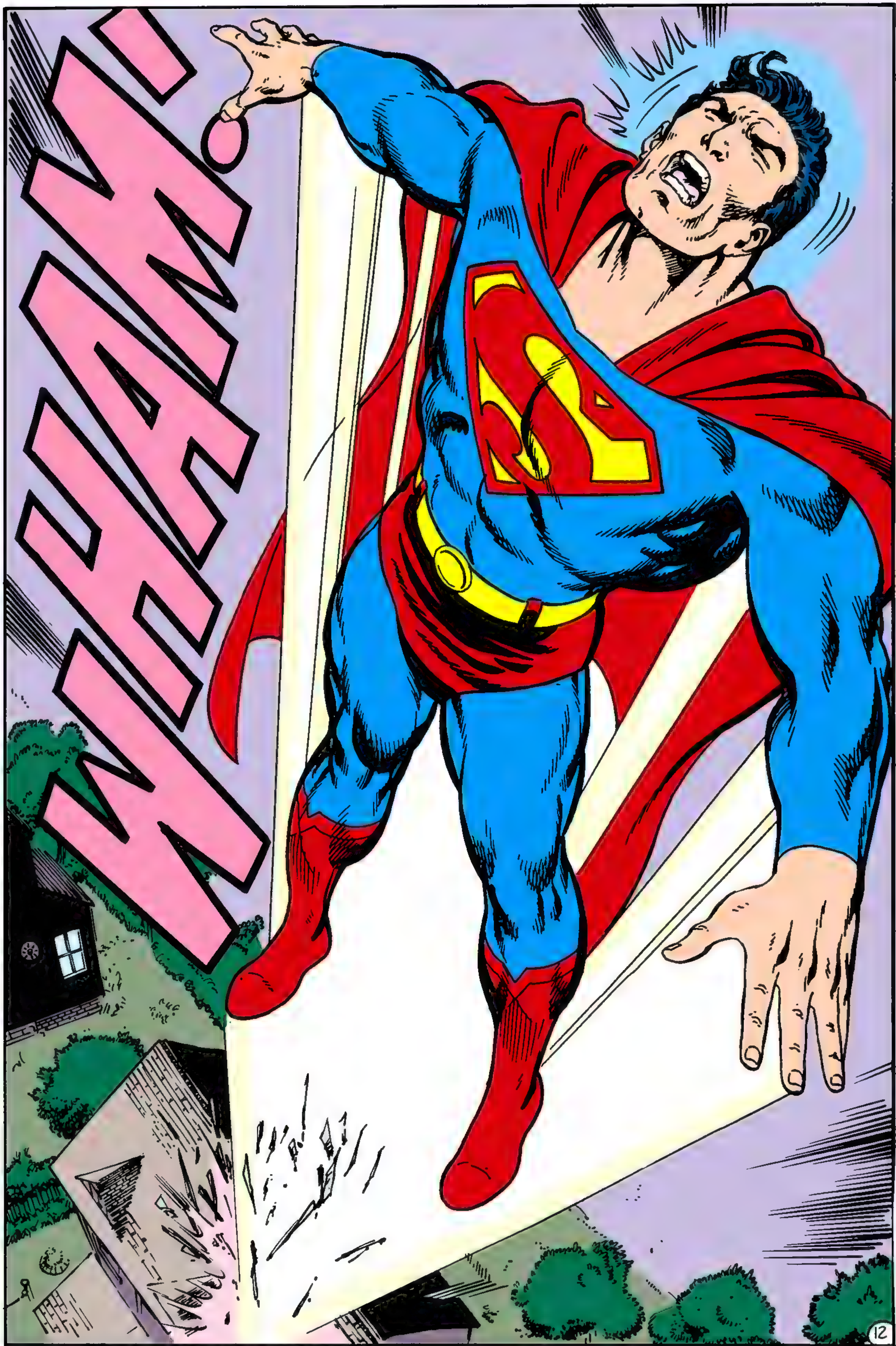
OUTSIDE FORCES COMBINED TO SET UP FOR ME THE MOMENT WHEN YOUNG SUPERBOY COULD BE TURNED TO MY DESIRES.

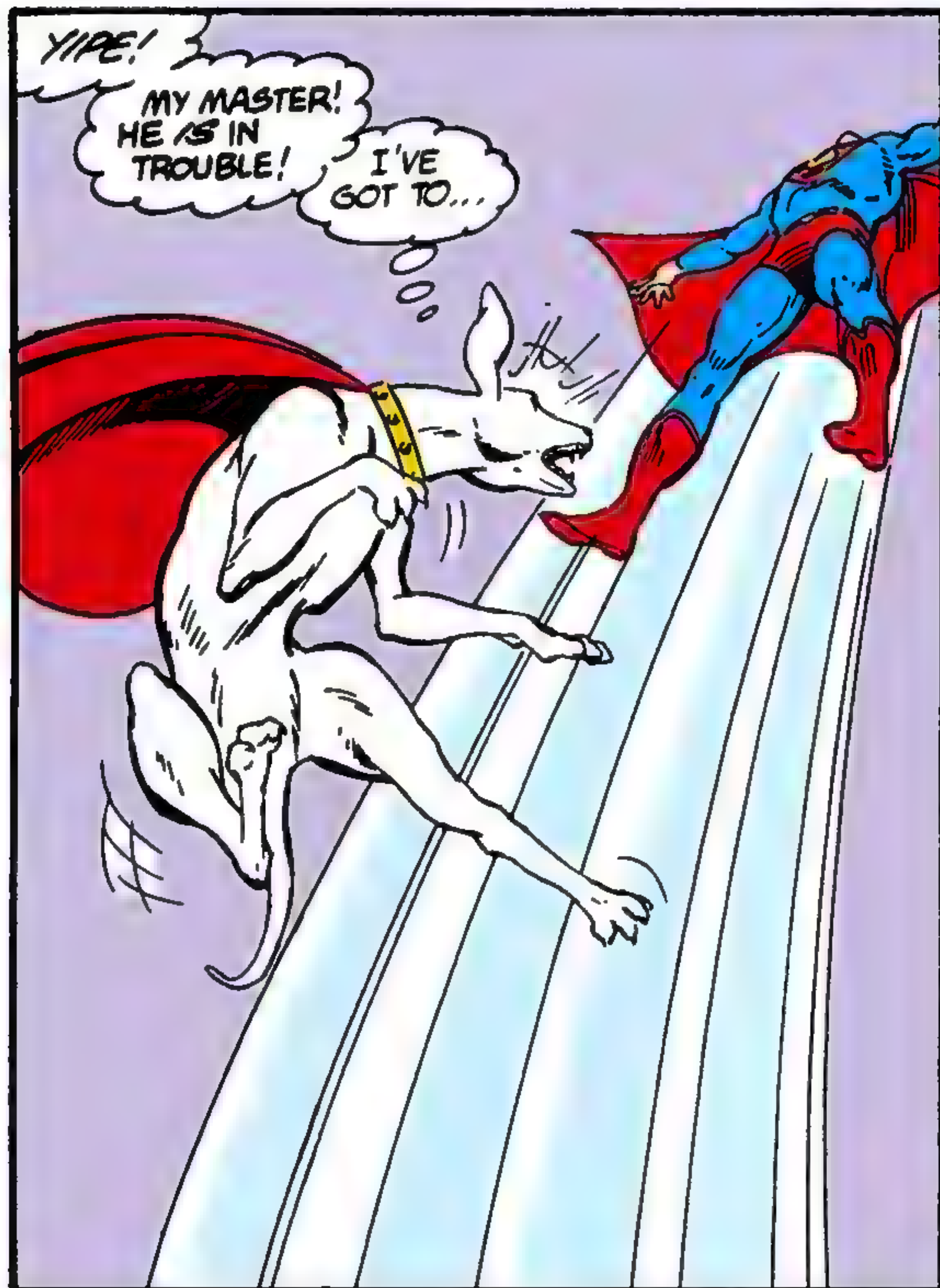
AND WITH THAT TURNING CAME THE FINAL ASSURANCE OF SUCCESS!

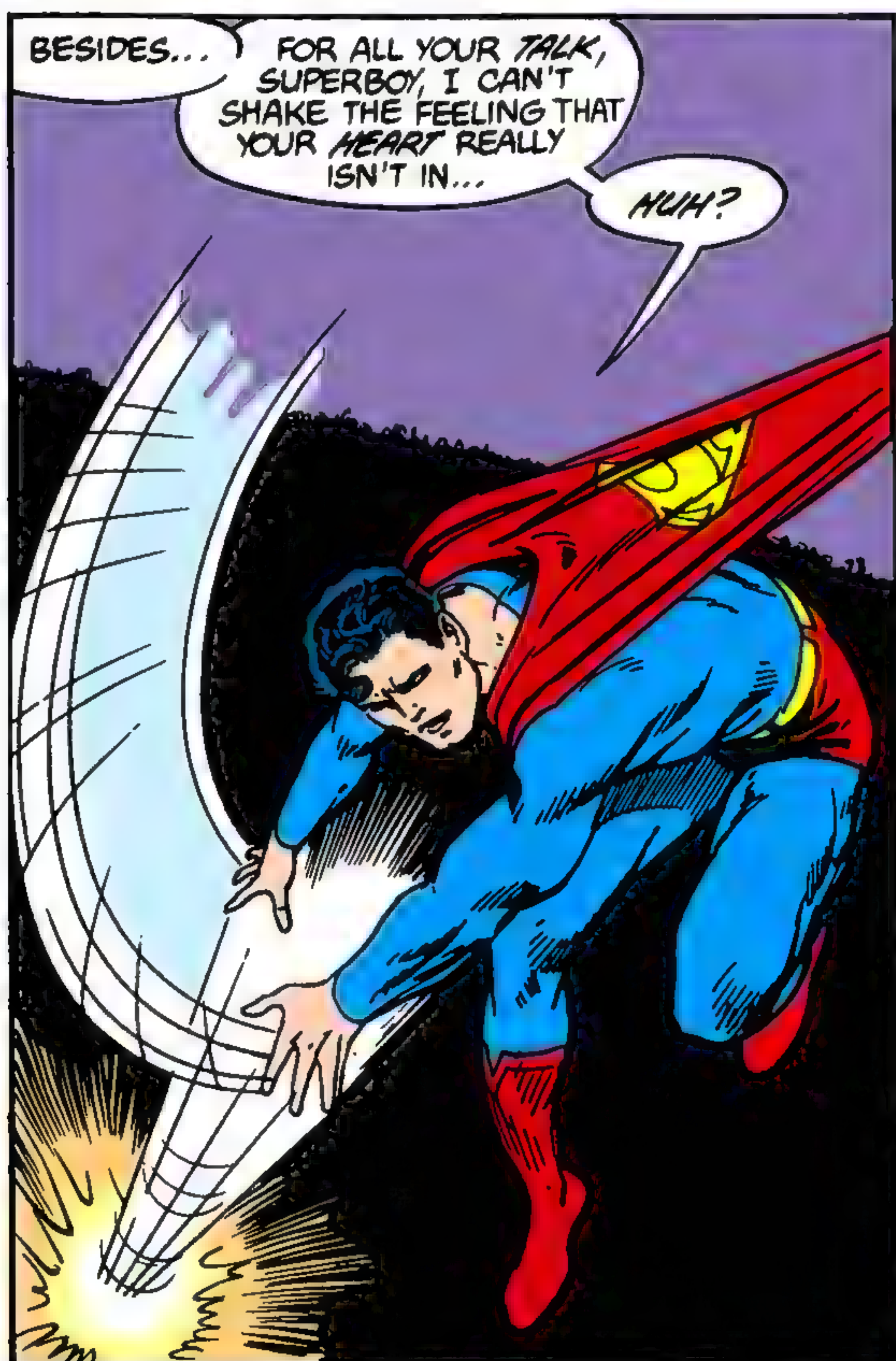
THE TIME TRAPPER SHALL NOW RULE ETERNITY!!!

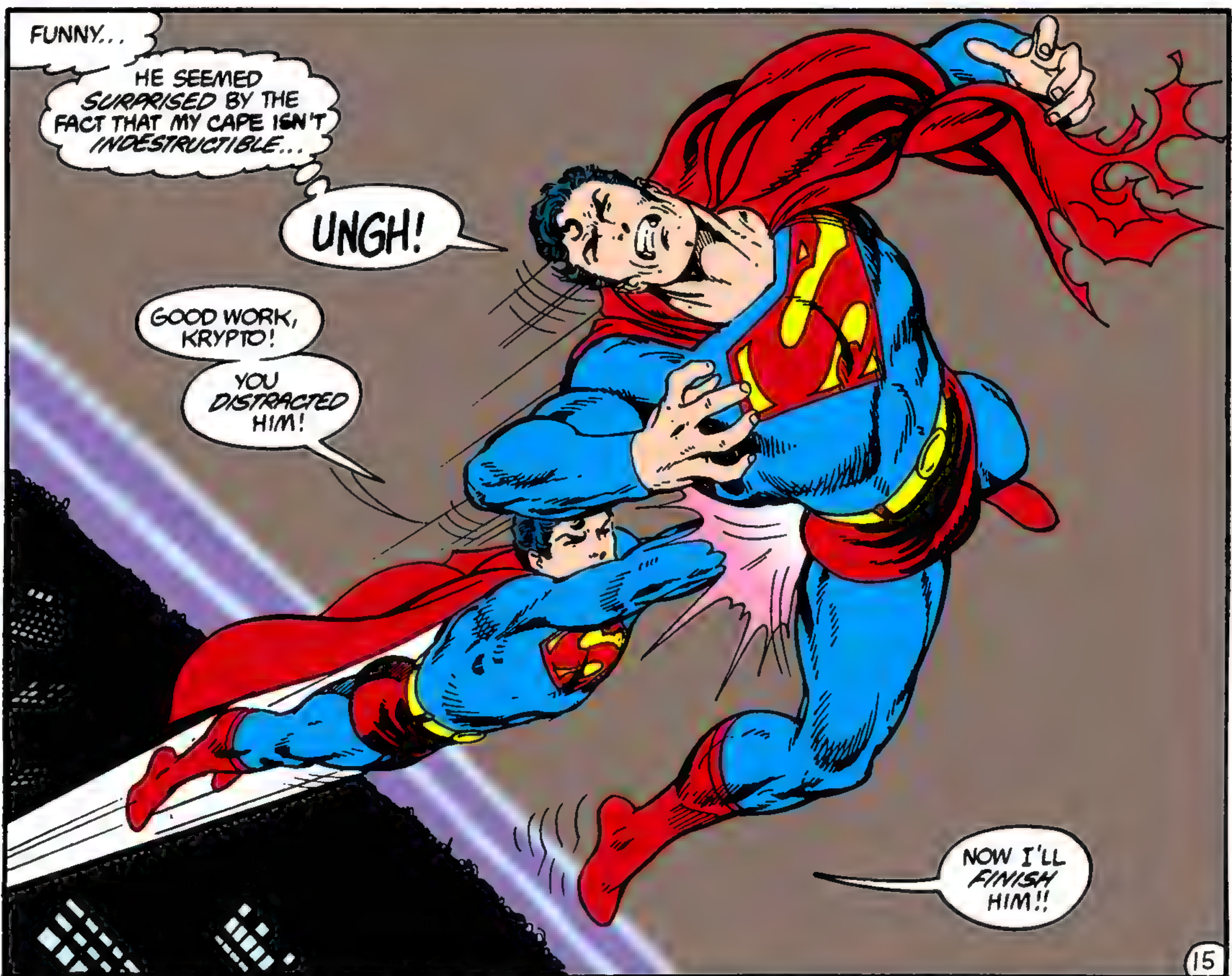
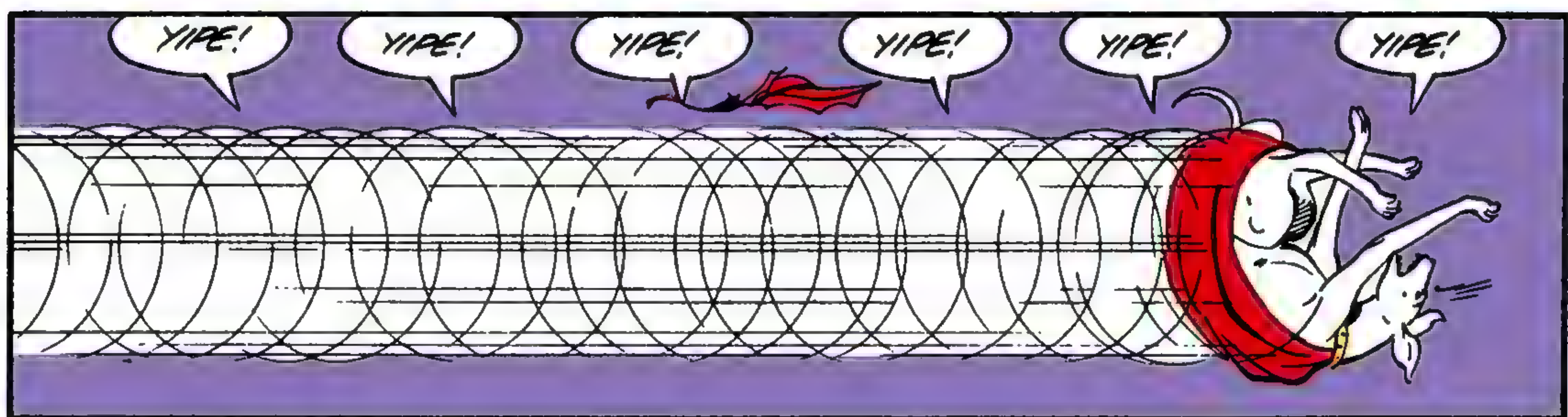
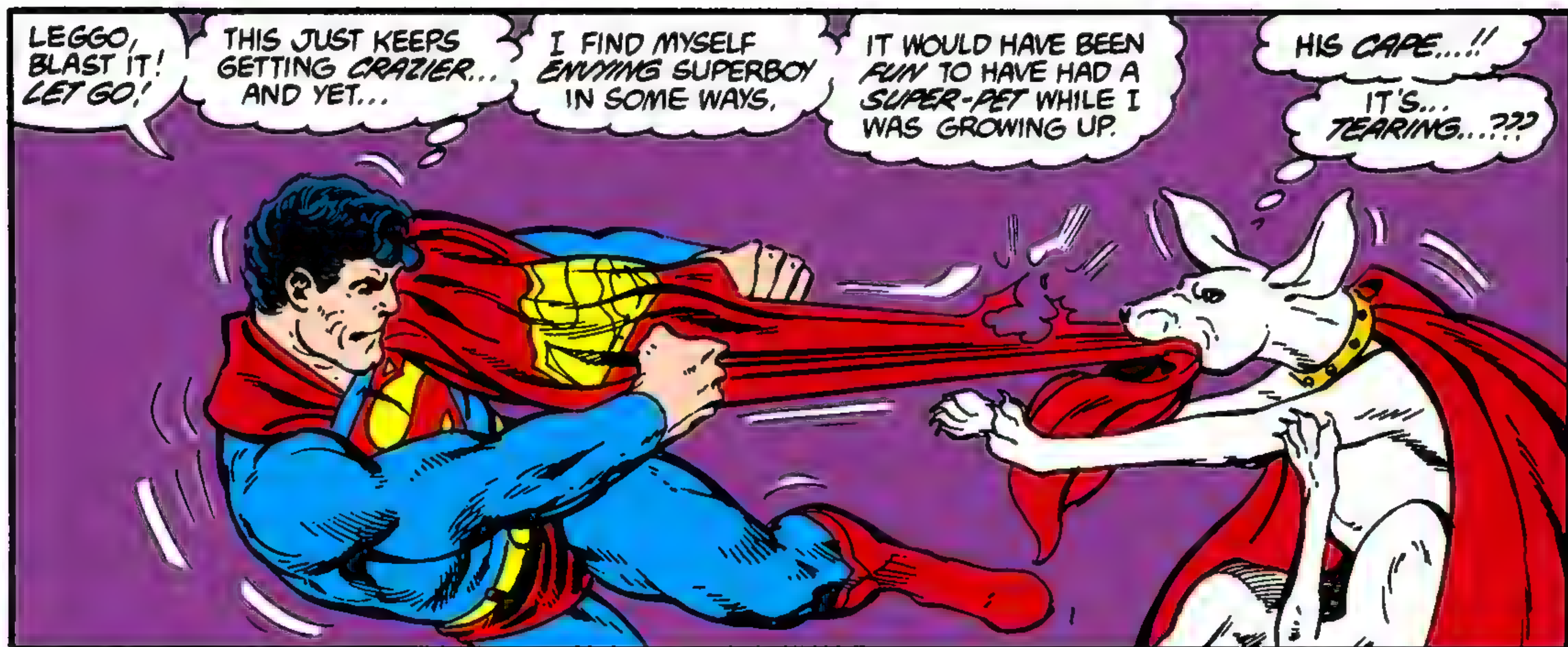














THEY'RE GOING AT IT AGAIN!

I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP SUPERBOY!

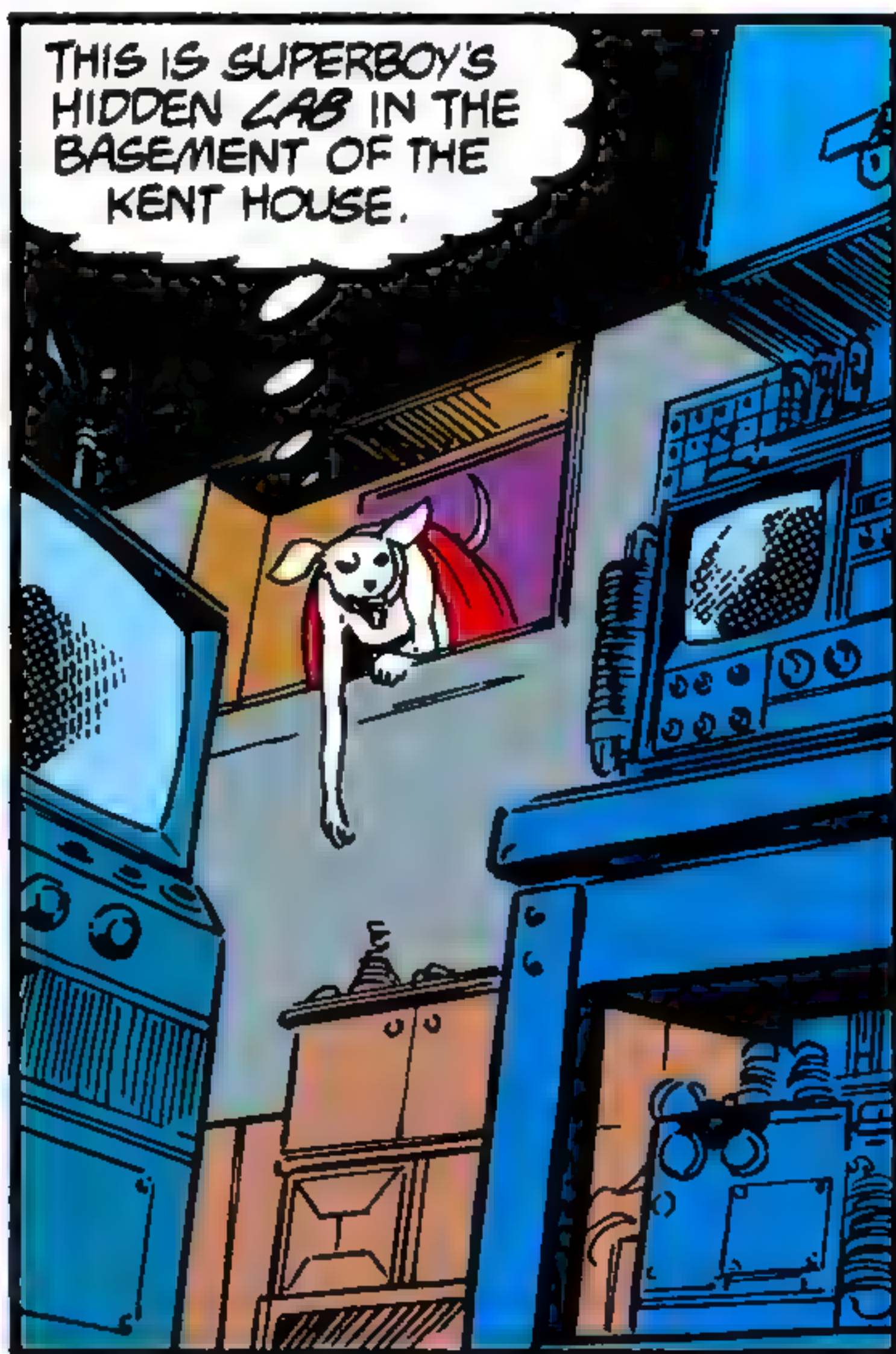
MY X-RAY VISION REVEALS THIS "SUPERMAN" IS A REAL KRYPTONIAN. HE MUST'VE ESCAPED FROM THE PHANTOM ZONE!



THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

THERE'S ONE SURE WAY TO STOP ANY KRYPTONIAN...

PERMANENTLY!



THIS IS SUPERBOY'S HIDDEN LAB IN THE BASEMENT OF THE KENT HOUSE.



AND HERE BEHIND THIS SECRET PANEL ARE LEAD BOXES CONTAINING SAMPLES OF ALL THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF KRYPTONITE!



GREEN KRYPTONITE CAN KILL A KRYPTONIAN... RED K CAUSES BIZARRE PHYSICAL MUTATIONS... WHITE K KILLS ONLY PLANTS...

GOLD K IS THE ONE I WANT!

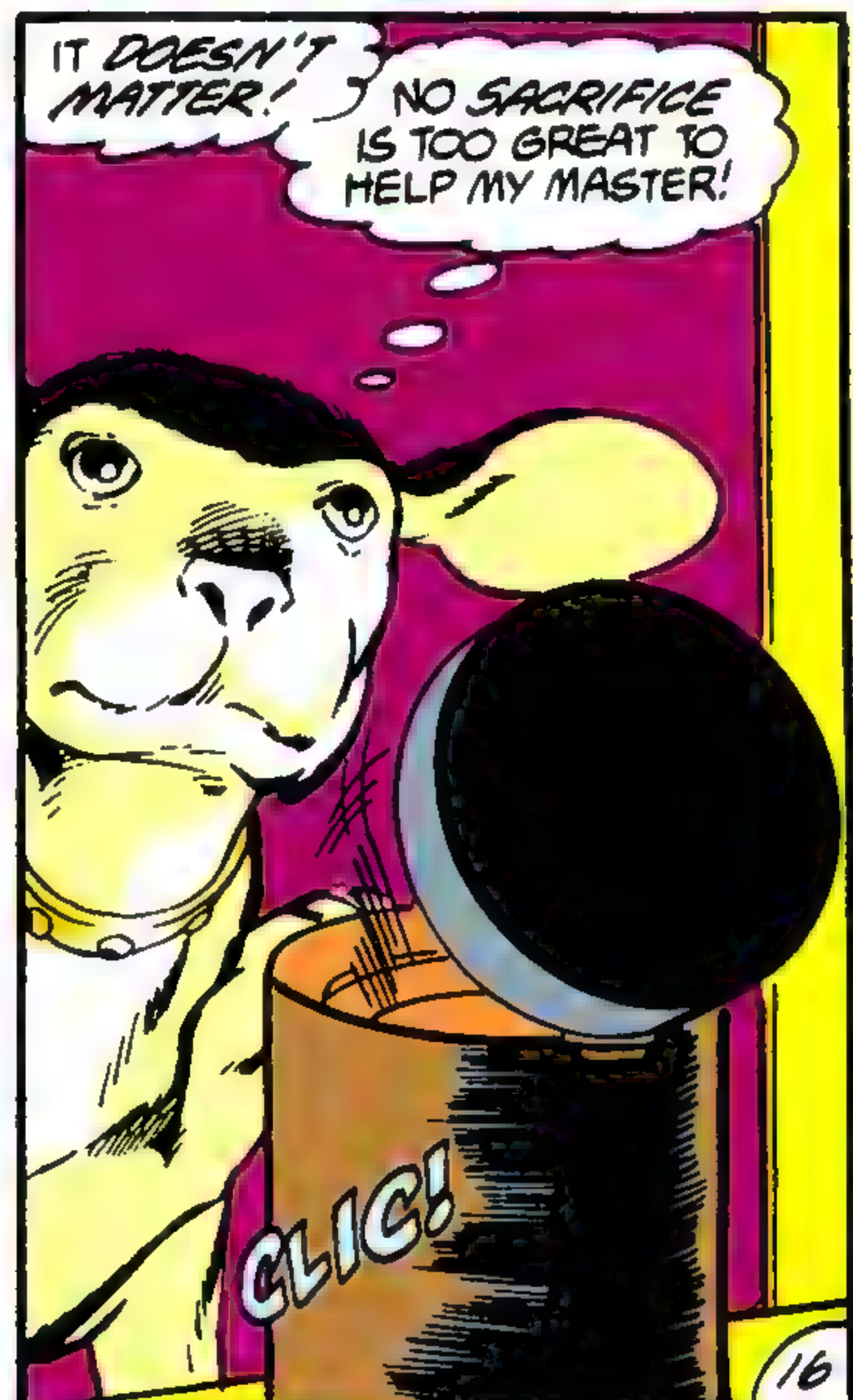


BUT... TO DO WHAT I WANT TO DO WITHOUT ENDANGERING SUPERBOY, I'LL HAVE TO CARRY THE GOLD K OUT IN THE OPEN, WHERE HE CAN SEE IT!

THE LEAD CONTAINER WILL BLOCK HIS X-RAY VISION...

AND THAT MEANS...

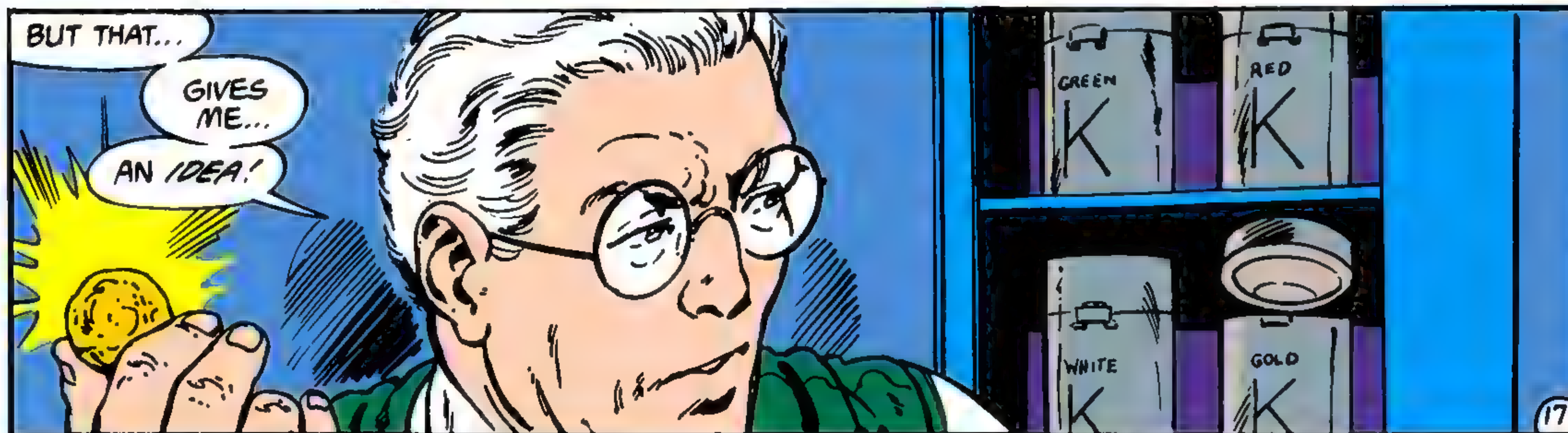
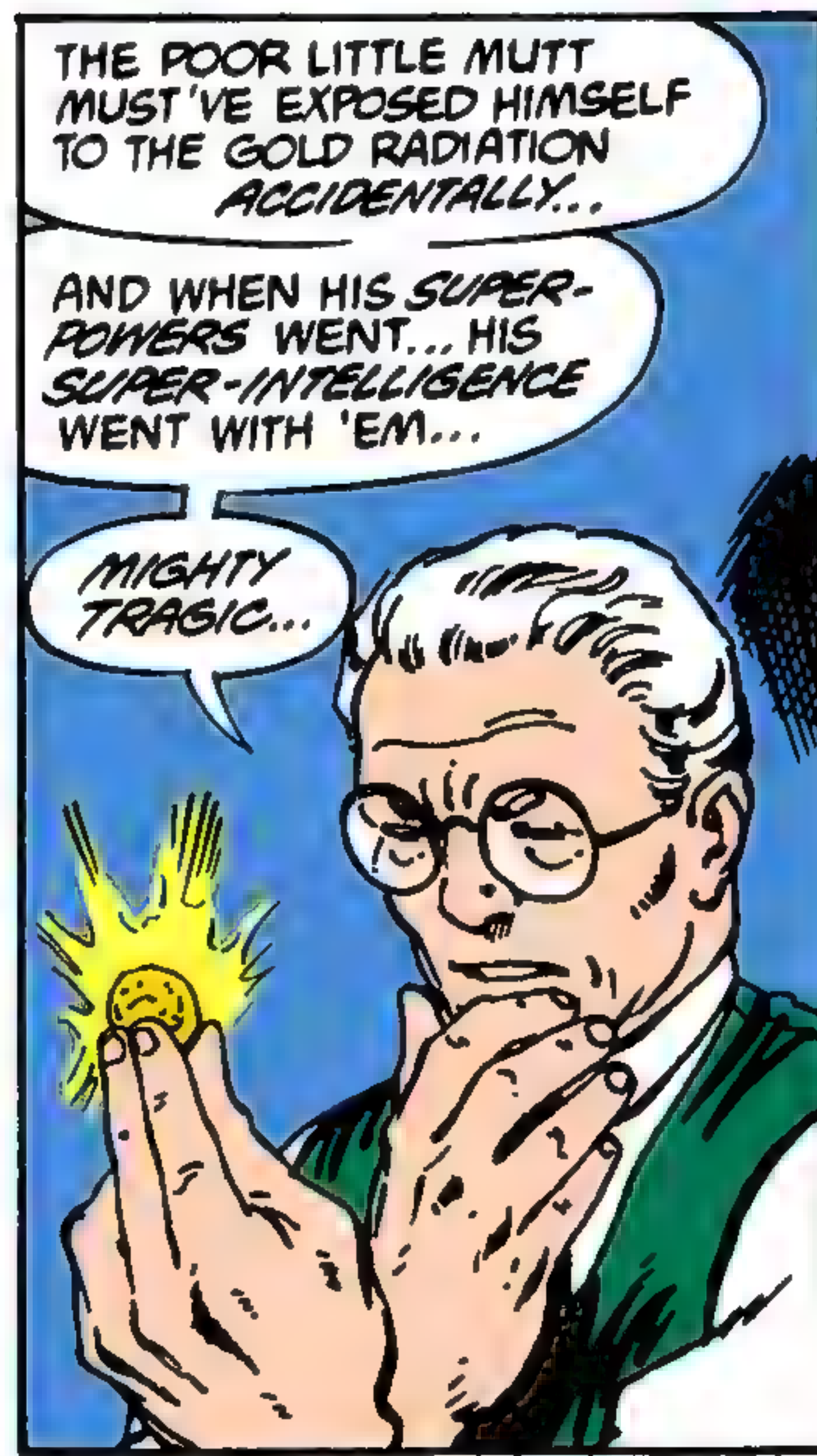
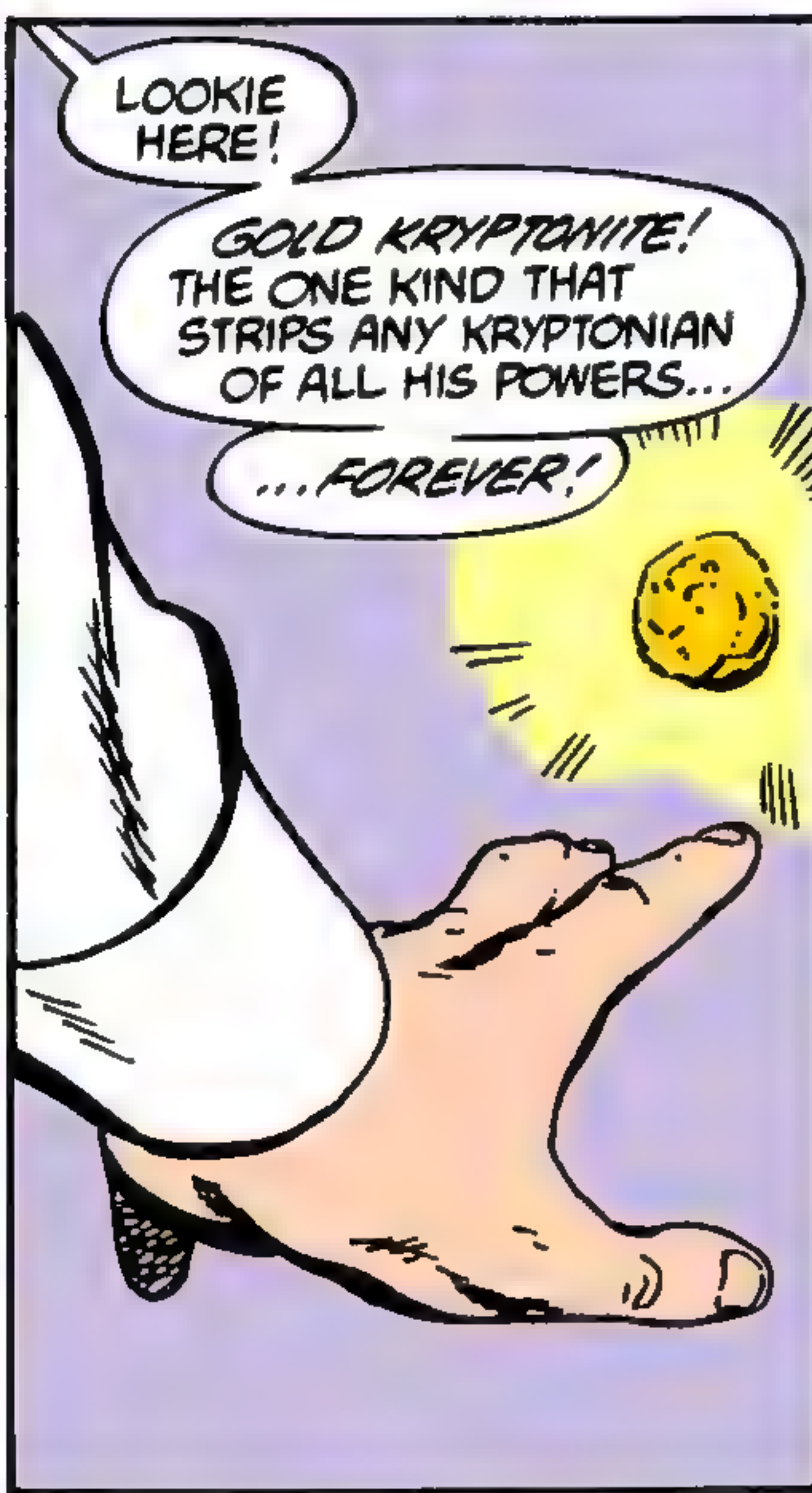
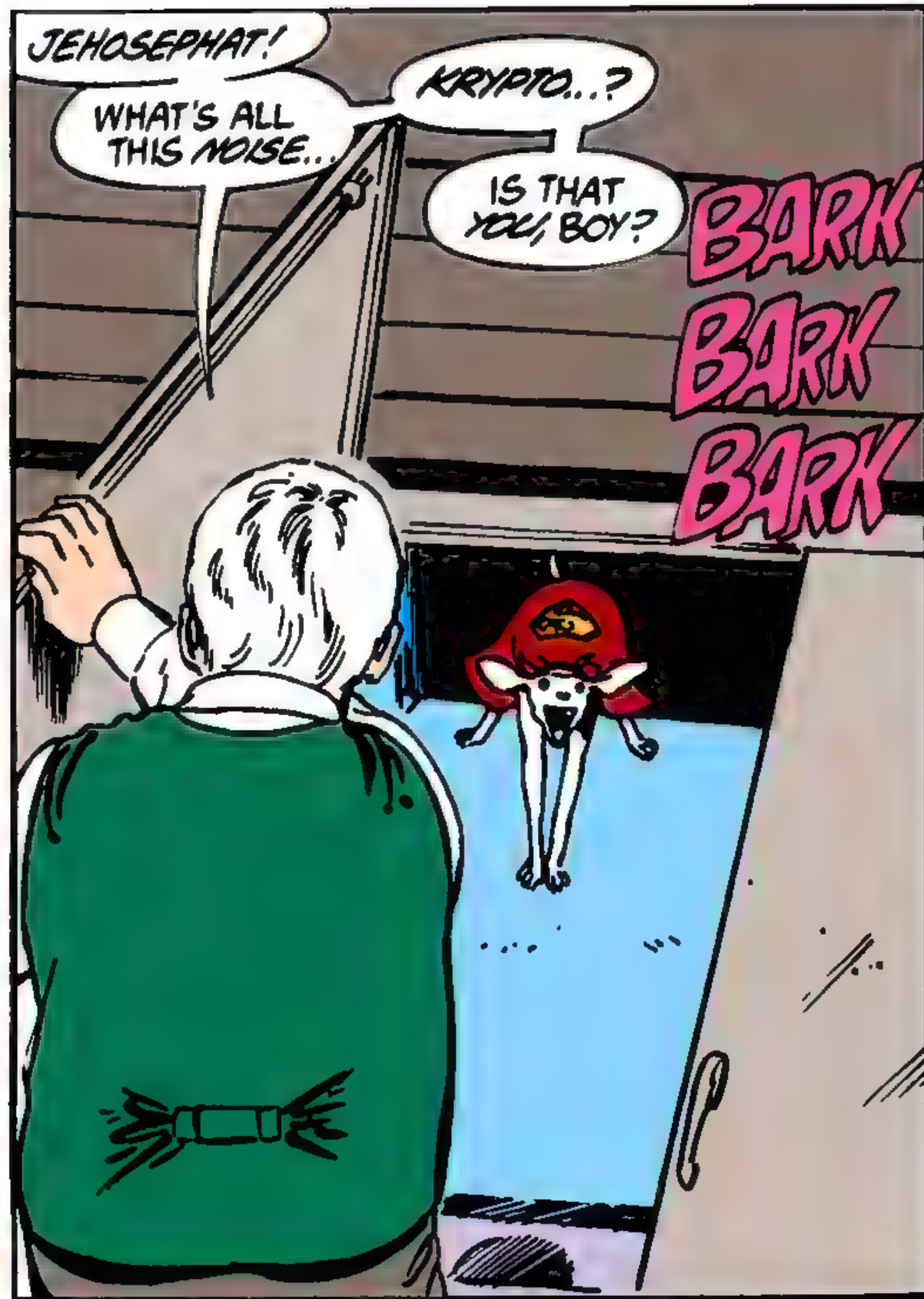
I'LL HAVE TO EXPOSE MYSELF TO THE GOLD K RADIATION!

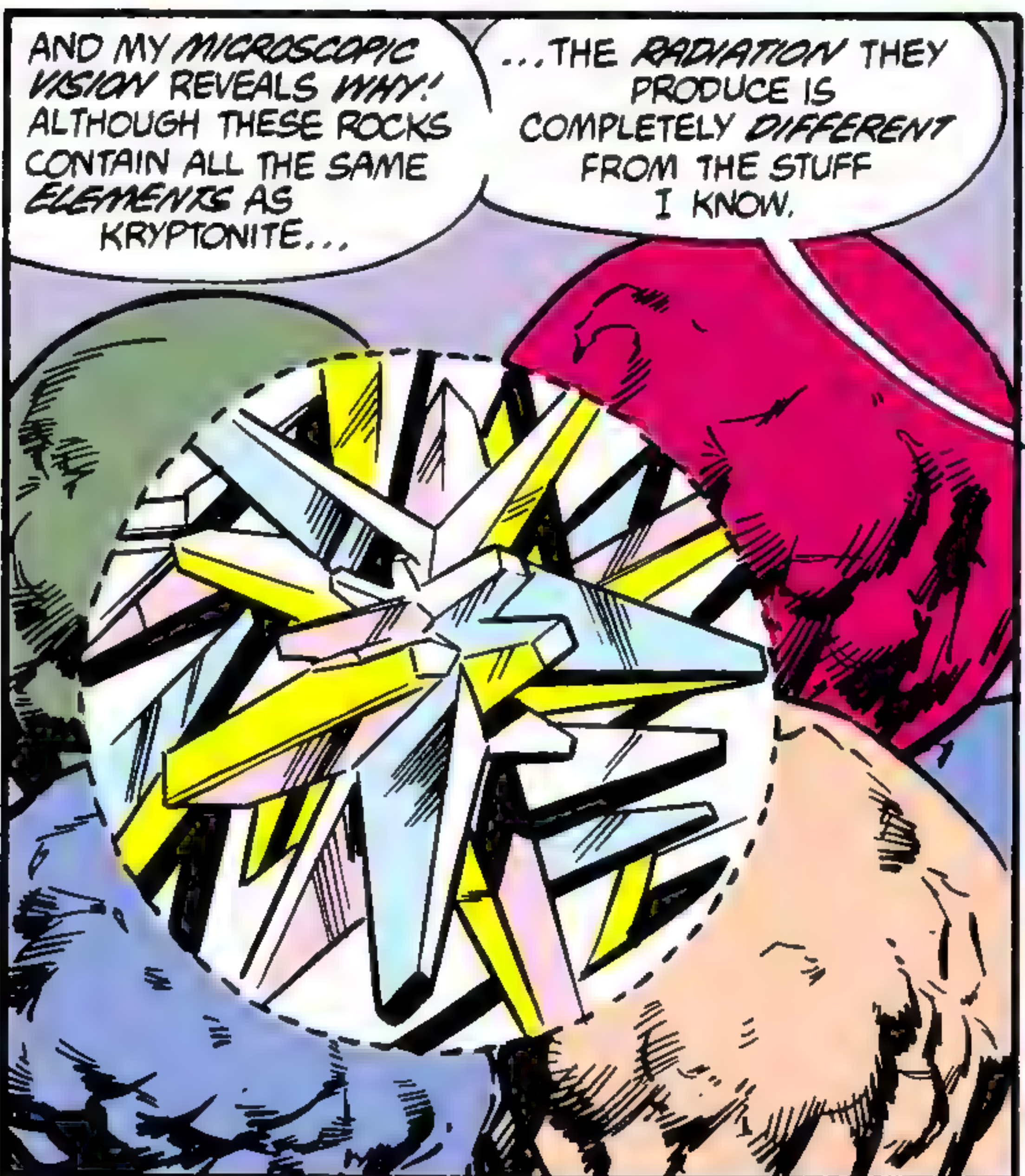
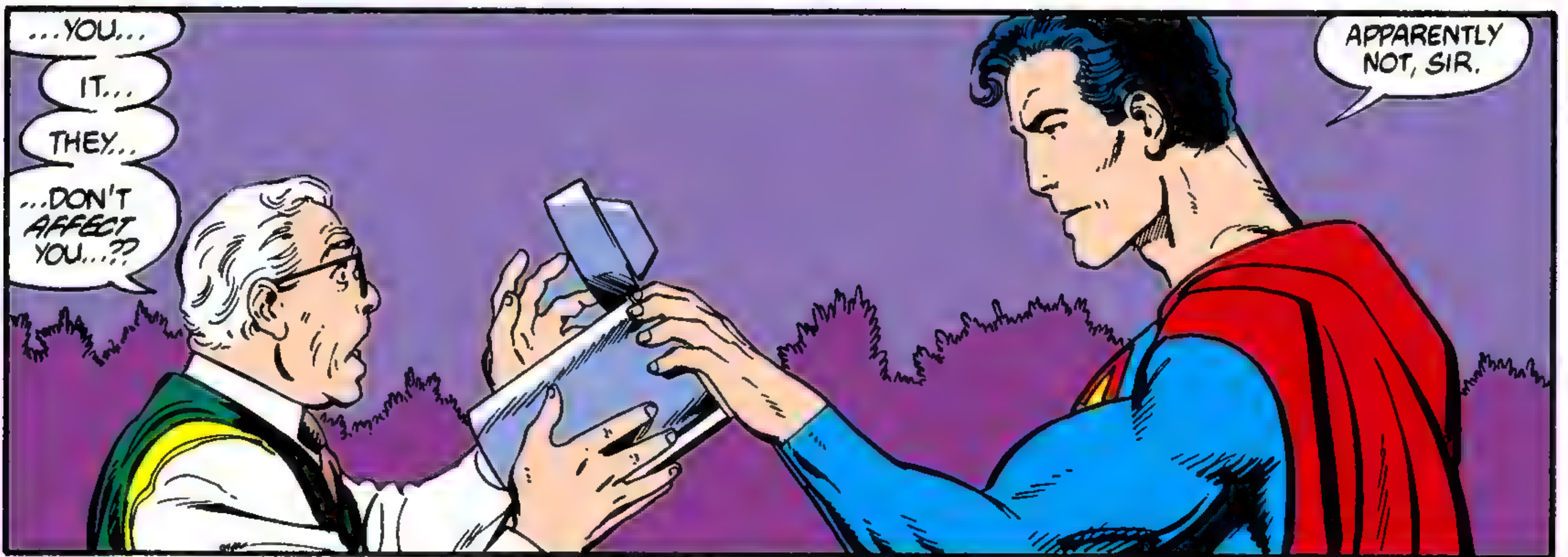
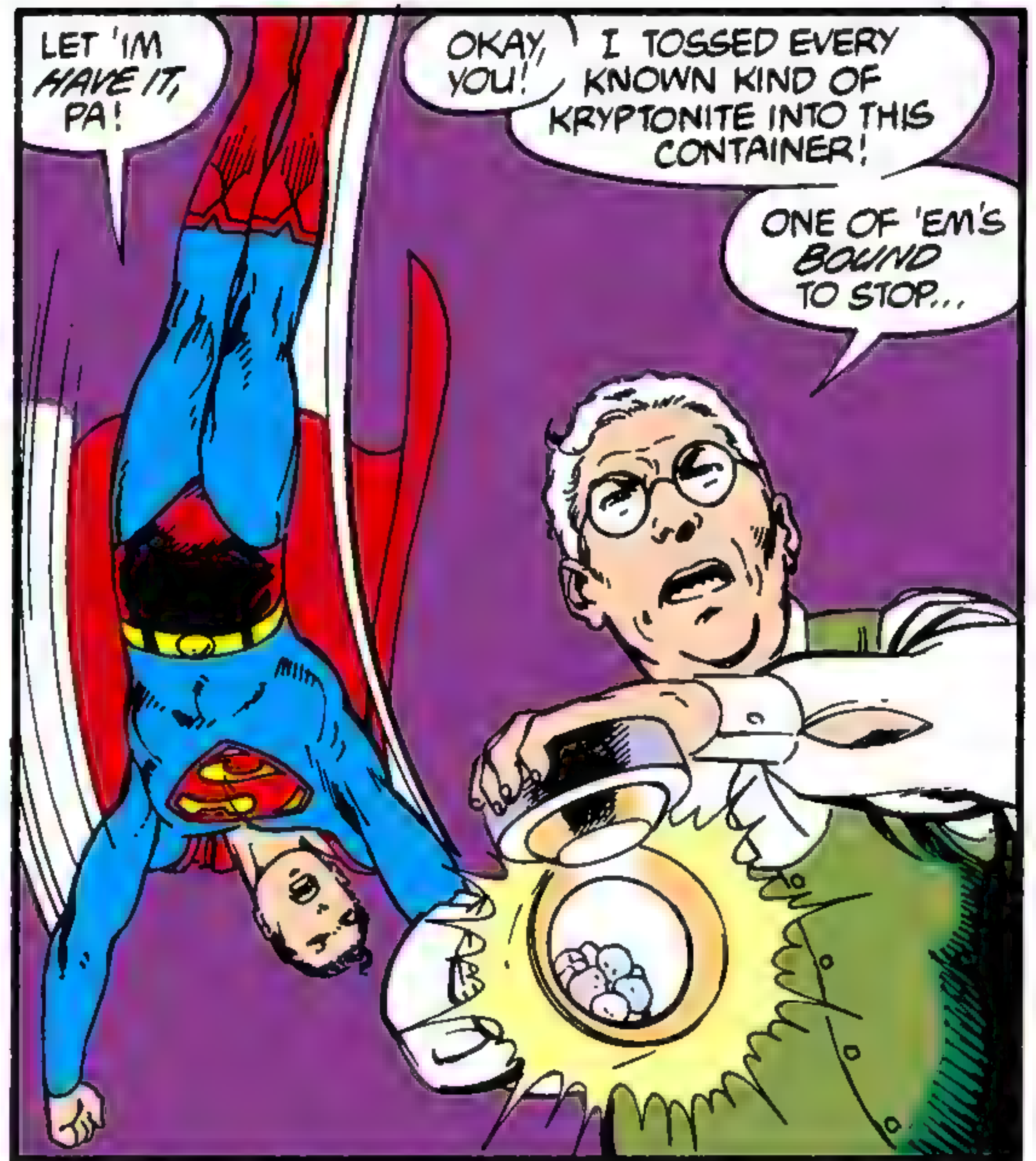


IT DOESN'T MATTER!

NO SACRIFICE IS TOO GREAT TO HELP MY MASTER!

CLIC!





I SAID BEFORE THAT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE YOUR *HEART* WAS REALLY IN THIS BATTLE, SUPERBOY.

NOW YOU'RE READY TO CONCEDE *DEFEAT* JUST BECAUSE I'VE GOT THE KRYPTONITE... WHEN IN FACT, WITH YOUR GREATER *SPEED*, YOU COULD PROBABLY SNATCH THIS CONTAINER FROM MY HAND BEFORE I'VE EVEN SEEN YOU *MOVE*.

BUT YOU'RE NOT *GOING TO*, ARE YOU, SUPERBOY? BECAUSE DOING THAT WOULD START THIS SENSELESS FIGHT GOING AGAIN... AND YOU KNOW FULL WELL THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN EVER *BEAT* ME IS BY *KILLING* ME.

AND THAT'S *SOMETHING ELSE* YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO. YOU'D ALREADY HAVE DONE IT, I THINK, IF YOU REALLY *MEANT* TO.

WINNING HAS NEVER BEEN PART OF YOUR *GAME PLAN*, HAS IT? IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO PUT ALL THE *PIECES* TOGETHER...

BUT EVERYTHING INDICATES THAT YOU *WANTED* ME TO WIN THIS FIGHT.



EVEN THE *STASIS RAY* YOU ZAPPED THE LEGIONNAIRES AND ME WITH...

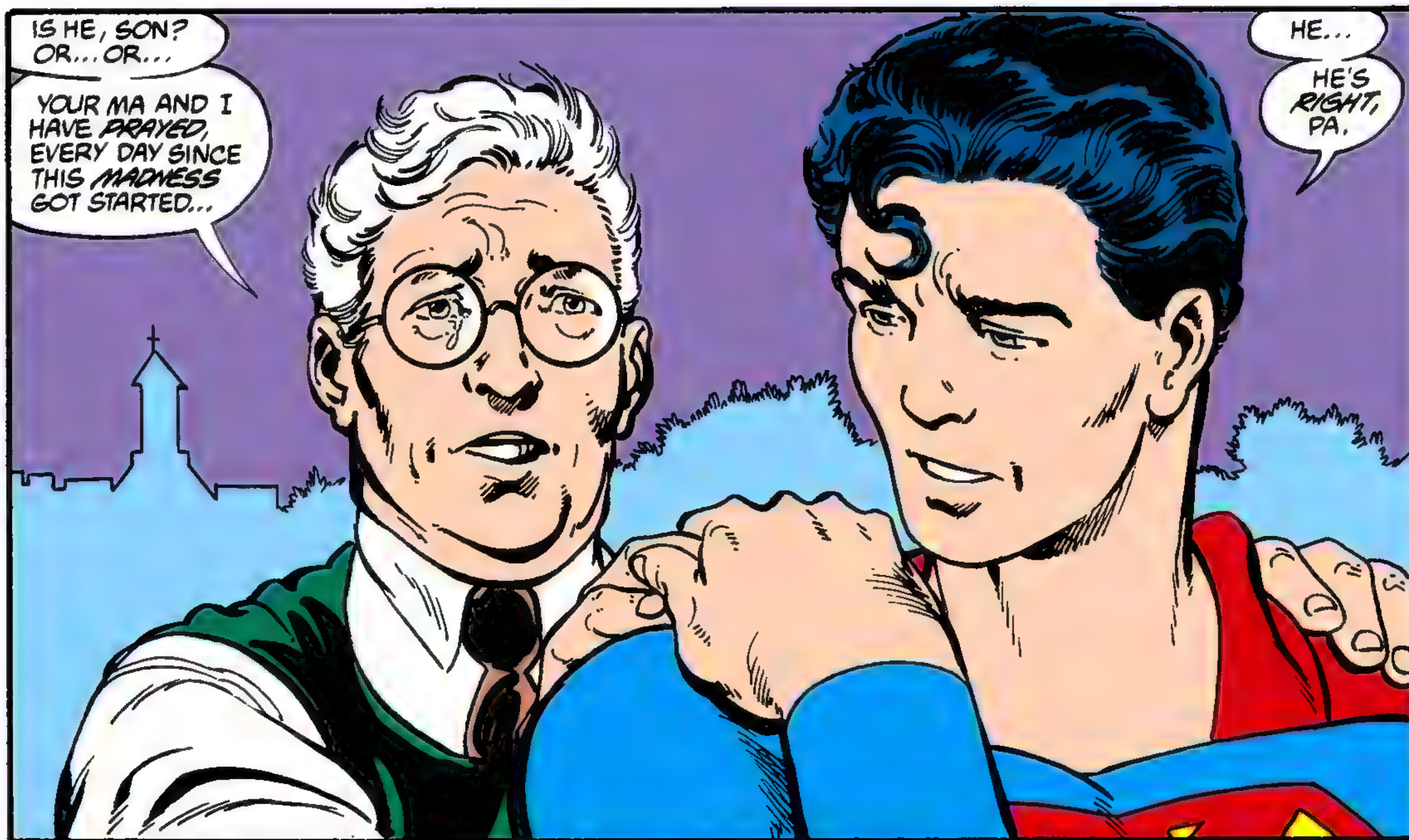
IT *WORE OFF*-- AT LEAST FOR ME. THE LEGION MEMBERS WERE STILL *FROZEN*, BUT I WAS ABLE TO *PURSUE* YOU.

THEN THERE WAS THE EXACT *MOMENT* AND *PLACE* I ARRIVED IN THIS SMALLVILLE.

RIGHT WHERE PETE ROSS COULD *SEE* ME, AND TAKE ME TO THE KENT HOUSE. YOU WANTED TO BE *SURE* I'D FIND YOU AGAIN, AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, DIDN'T YOU?

IT'S ALL THERE, SUPERBOY. I'D EVEN BE WILLING TO *BET* YOU KNEW, SOMEHOW, THAT THIS KRYPTONITE WOULDN'T WORK ON ME.

AM I *WRONG*?



IS HE, SON?
OR... OR...

YOUR MA AND I
HAVE *PRAYED*,
EVERY DAY SINCE
THIS *MADNESS*
GOT STARTED...

HE...

HE'S
RIGHT,
PA.



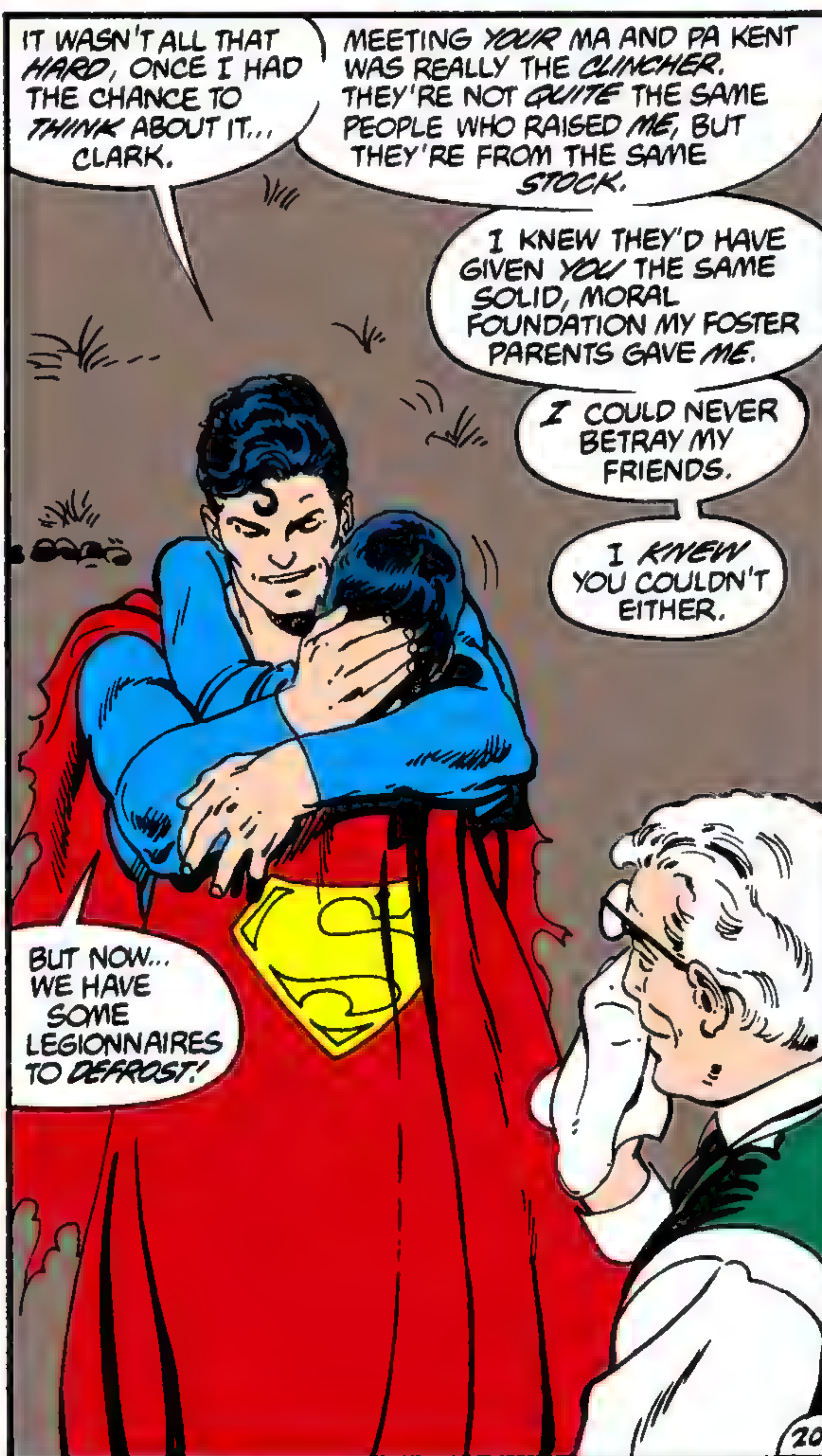
I *FIXED* THE STAGIS
RAY SO IT WOULDN'T
CAST ON
SUPERMAN.

I *WANTED* HIM TO
COME AFTER ME. IT
SEEMED LIKE THE ONLY
WAY I COULD *ESCAPE*
FROM THIS *NIGHTMARE*!

THE ONLY WAY I
COULD *SAVE* THE
LEGION... WITHOUT
SACRIFICING
EVERYONE I'VE
EVER *LOVED*!

IF SUPERMAN
COULD ONLY
DEFEAT ME
IN BATTLE...

BUT... HOW
COULD YOU *GUESS*
MY PLAN, SUPERMAN?
HOW COULD YOU
BE *SURE*?



IT WASN'T ALL THAT
HARD, ONCE I HAD
THE CHANCE TO
THINK ABOUT IT...
CLARK.

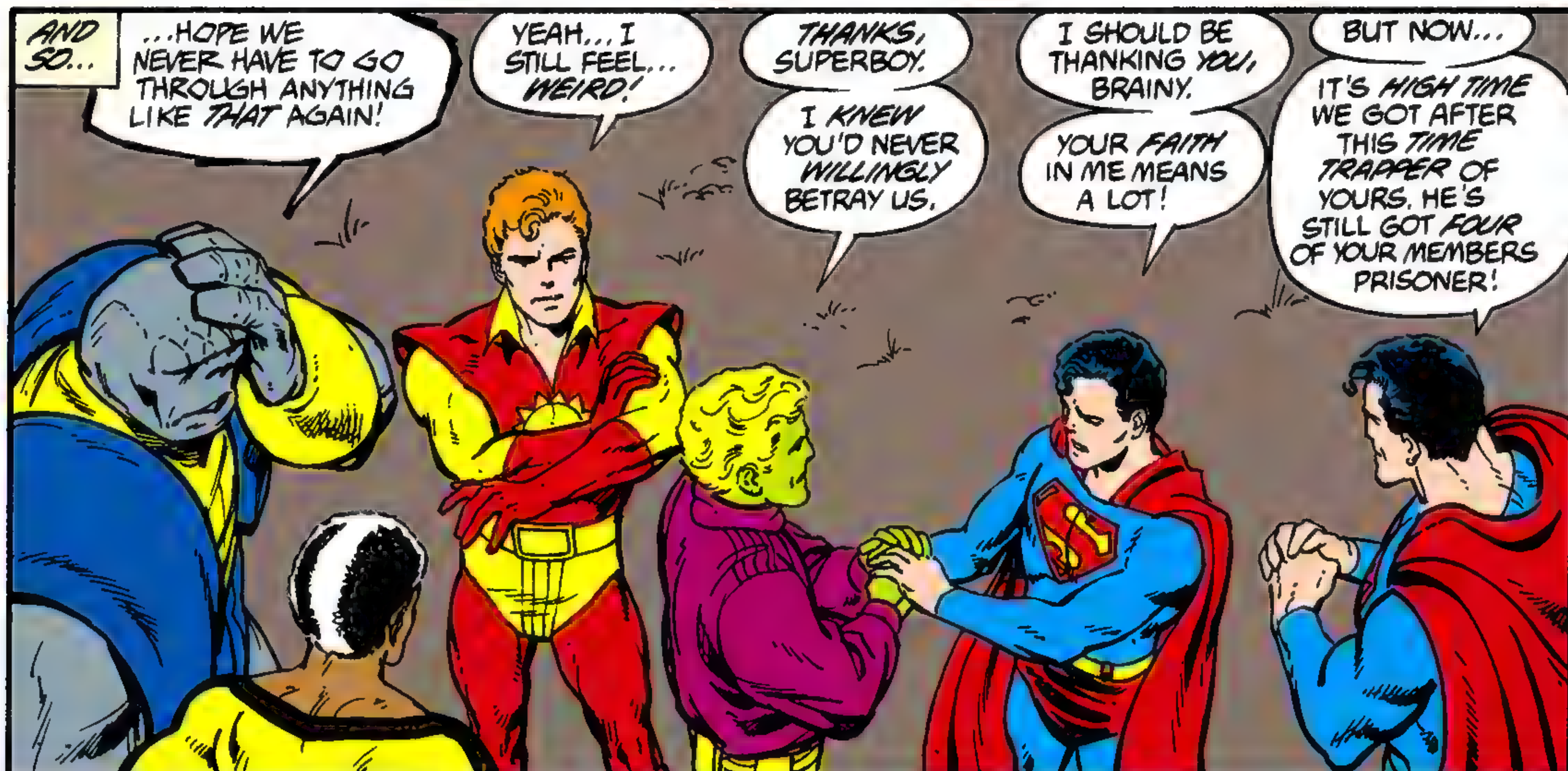
MEETING *YOUR* MA AND PA KENT
WAS REALLY THE *CLINCHER*.
THEY'RE NOT *QUITE* THE SAME
PEOPLE WHO RAISED *ME*, BUT
THEY'RE FROM THE SAME
STOCK.

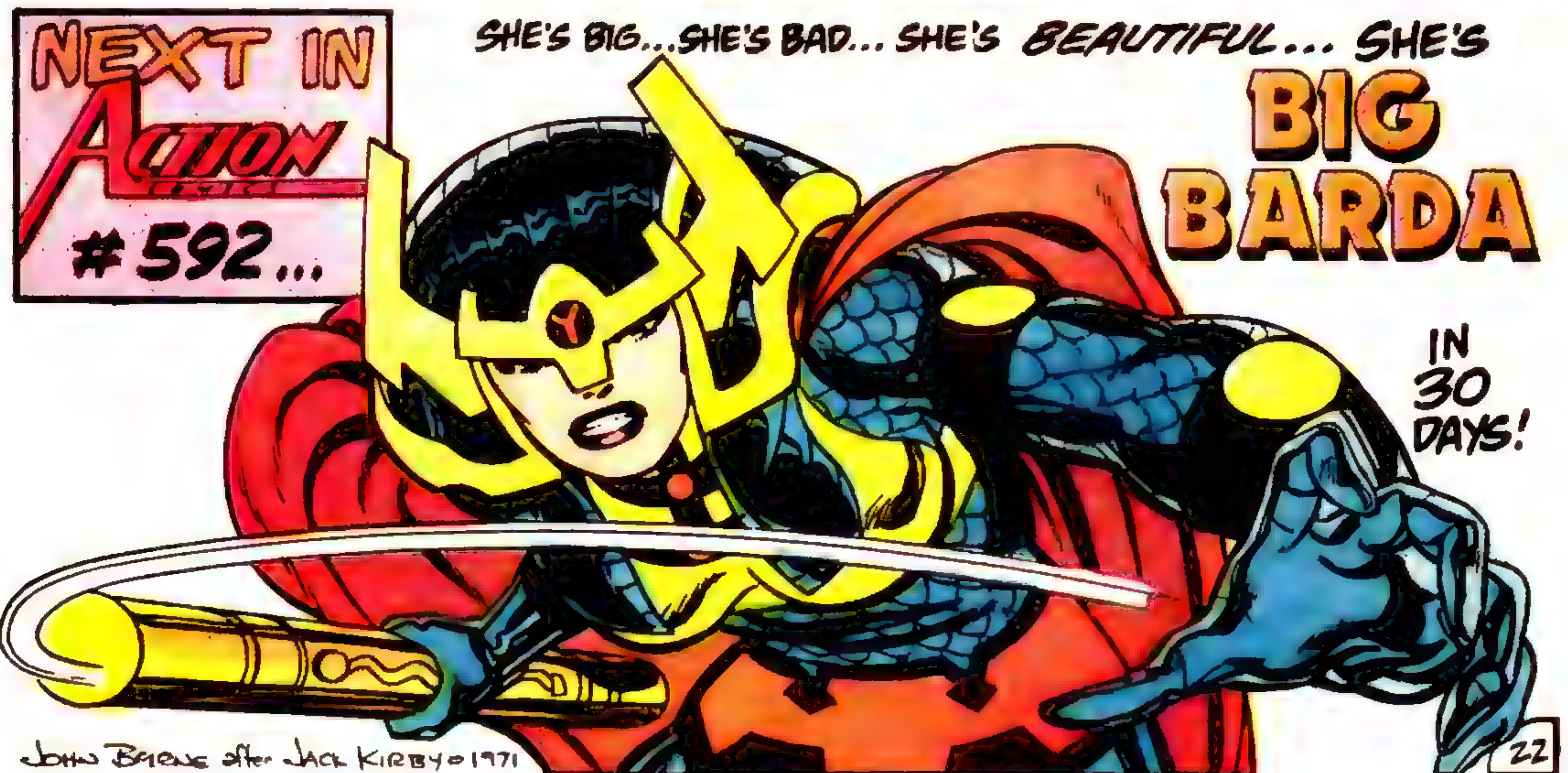
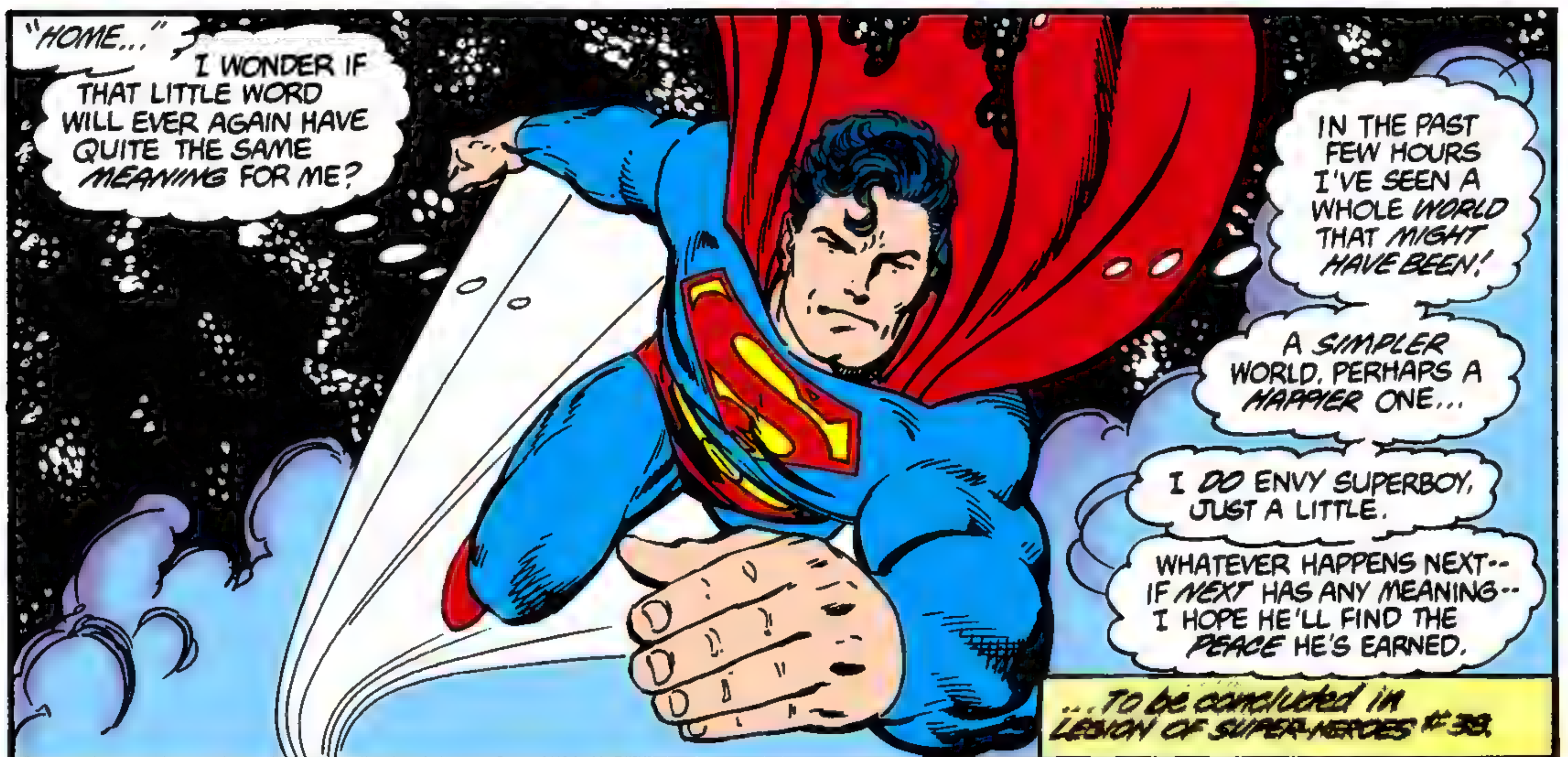
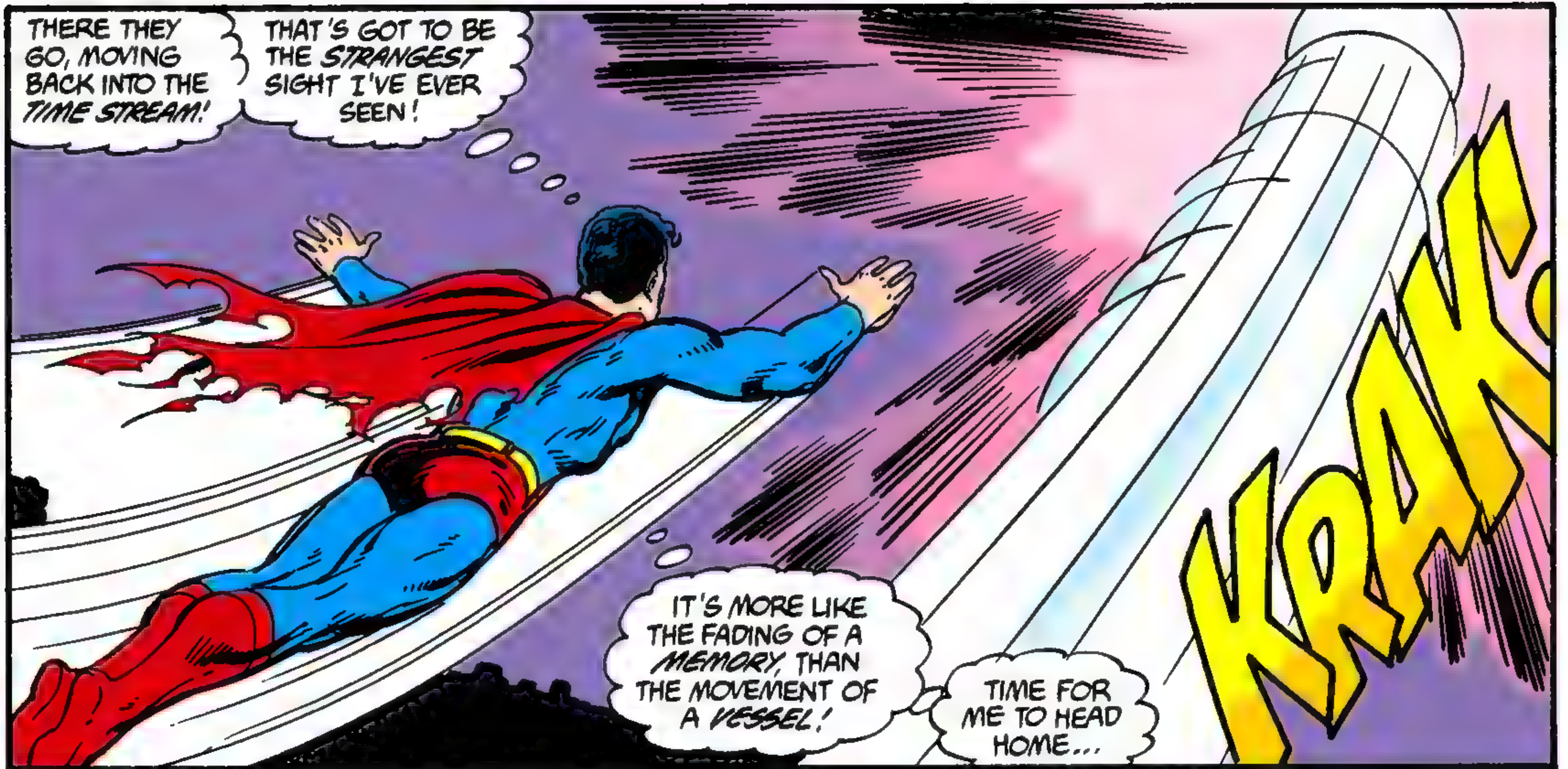
I KNEW THEY'D HAVE
GIVEN *YOU* THE SAME
SOLID, MORAL
FOUNDATION MY FOSTER
PARENTS GAVE *ME*.

I COULD NEVER
BETRAY MY
FRIENDS.

I *KNEW*
YOU COULDN'T
EITHER.

BUT NOW...
WE HAVE
SOME
LEGIONNAIRES
TO *DEFROST*!





A WEEK PASSES, AND LIFE, AS IT ALWAYS DOES, GOES ON. CLARK PREPARES FOR HIS PARENTS' ANNIVERSARY WHILE TRYING TO COVER ALL HIS ASSIGNMENTS.

BY TUESDAY, HIS BEST INTENTIONS ARE BLOWN, AS HE FINDS HIMSELF BATTLING ALONGSIDE THE GREEN LANTERN CORPS.

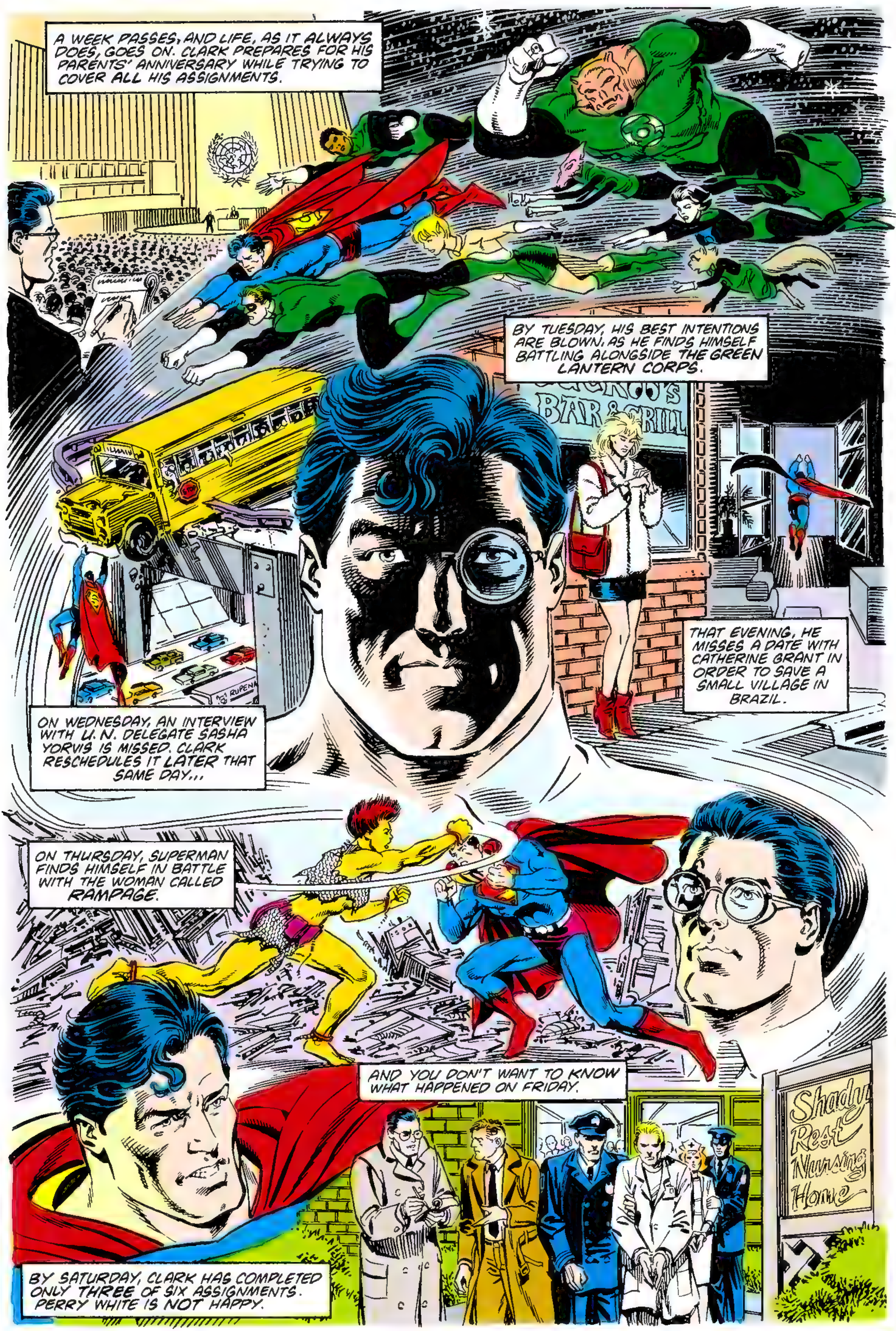
THAT EVENING, HE MISSES A DATE WITH CATHERINE GRANT IN ORDER TO SAVE A SMALL VILLAGE IN BRAZIL.

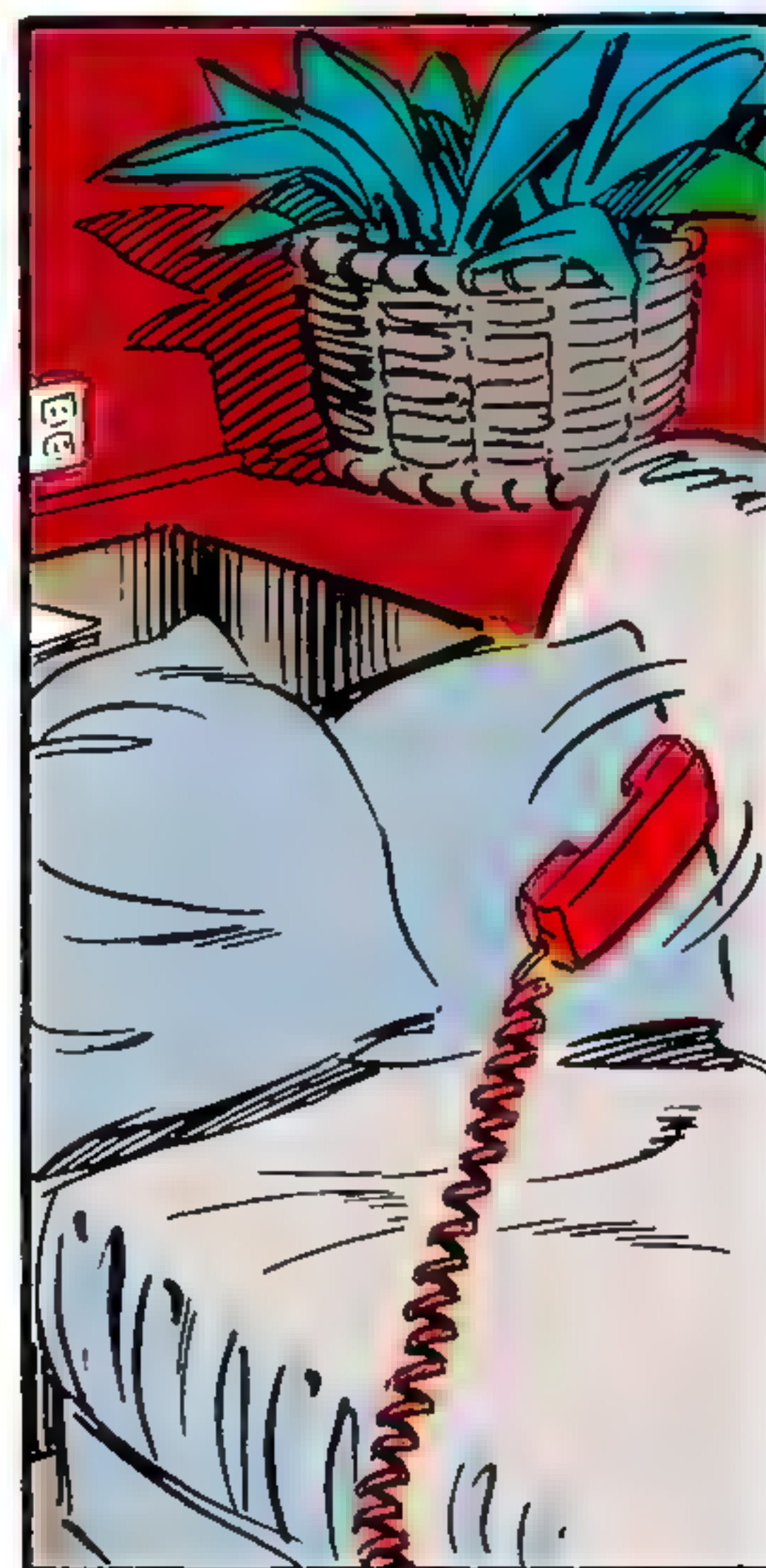
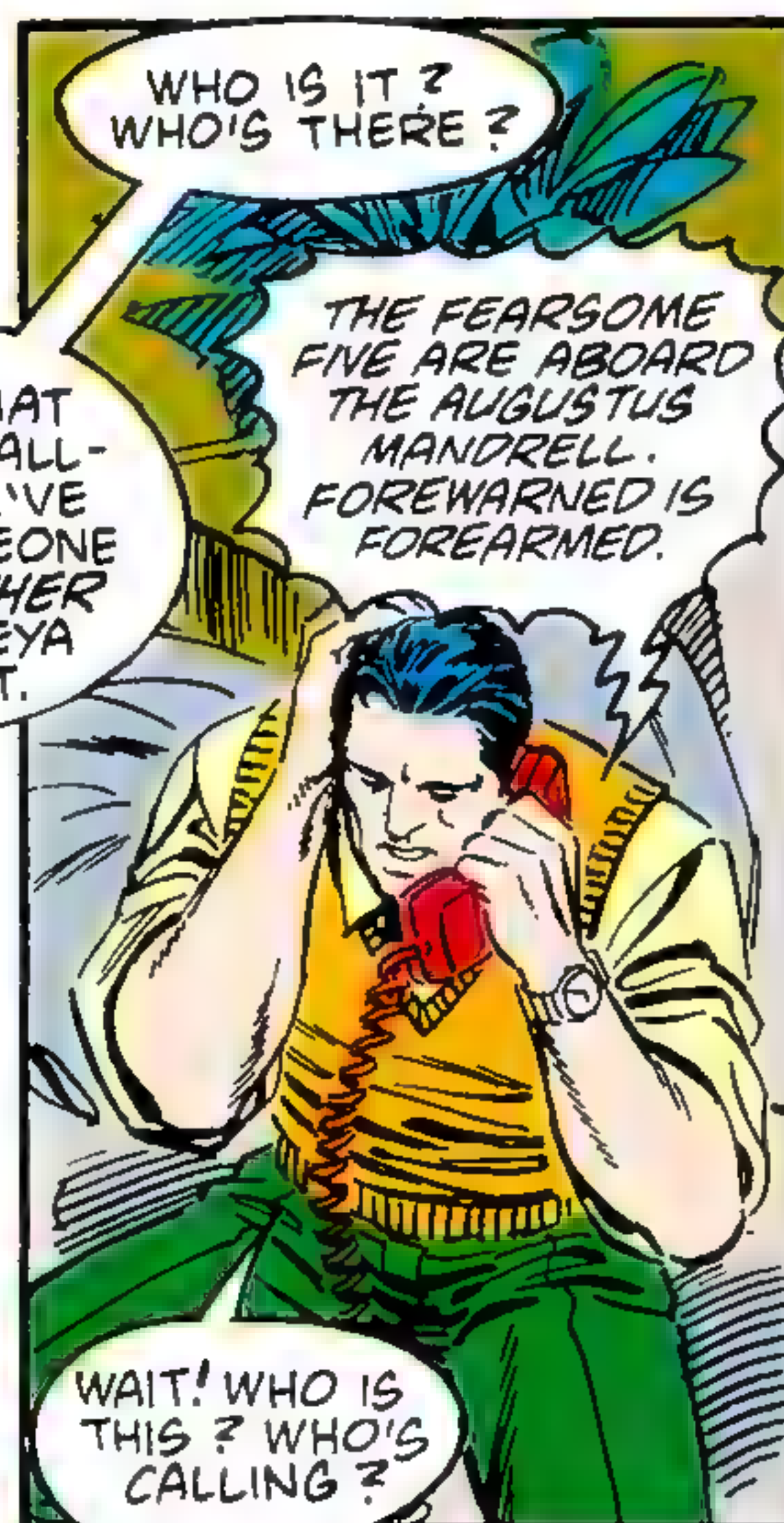
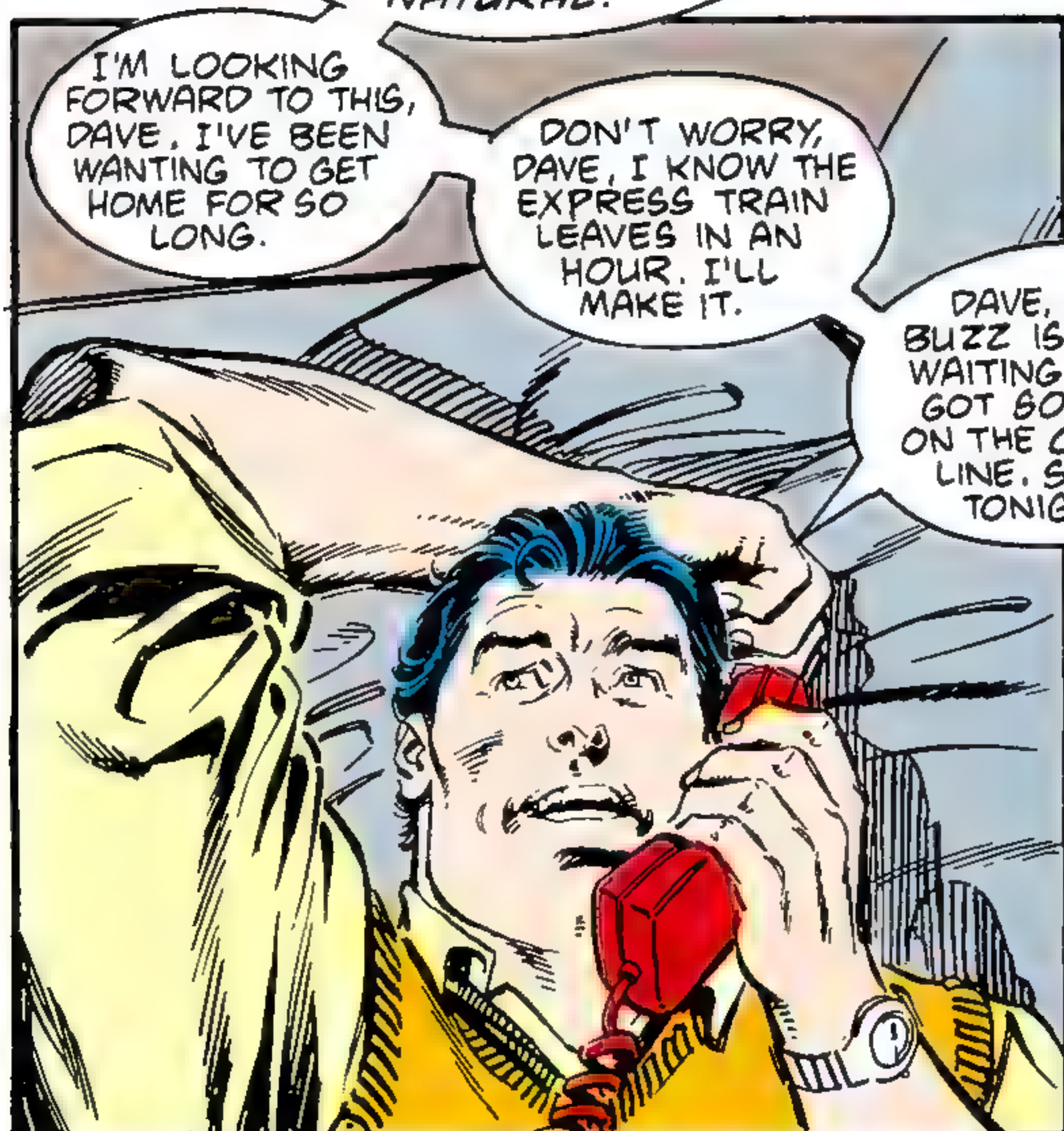
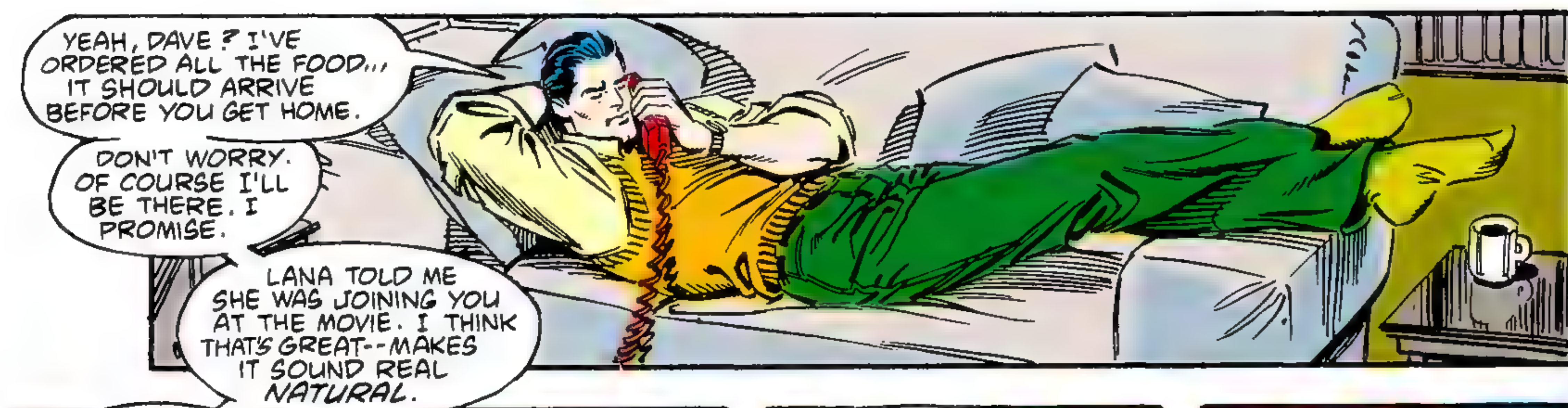
ON WEDNESDAY, AN INTERVIEW WITH U. N. DELEGATE SASHA YORVIS IS MISSED. CLARK RESCHEDULES IT LATER THAT SAME DAY...

ON THURSDAY, SUPERMAN FINDS HIMSELF IN BATTLE WITH THE WOMAN CALLED RAMPAGE.

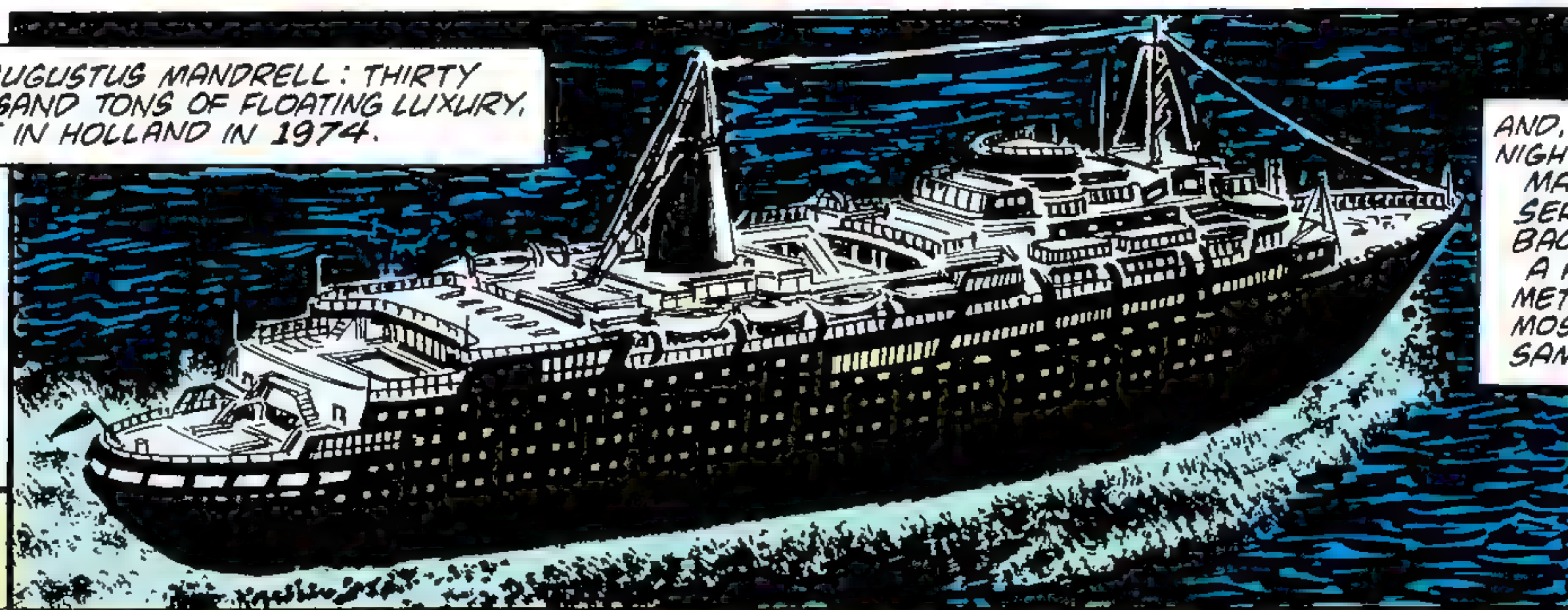
AND YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED ON FRIDAY.

BY SATURDAY, CLARK HAS COMPLETED ONLY THREE OF SIX ASSIGNMENTS. PERRY WHITE IS NOT HAPPY.





THE AUGUSTUS MANDRELL: THIRTY THOUSAND TONS OF FLOATING LUXURY, BUILT IN HOLLAND IN 1974.

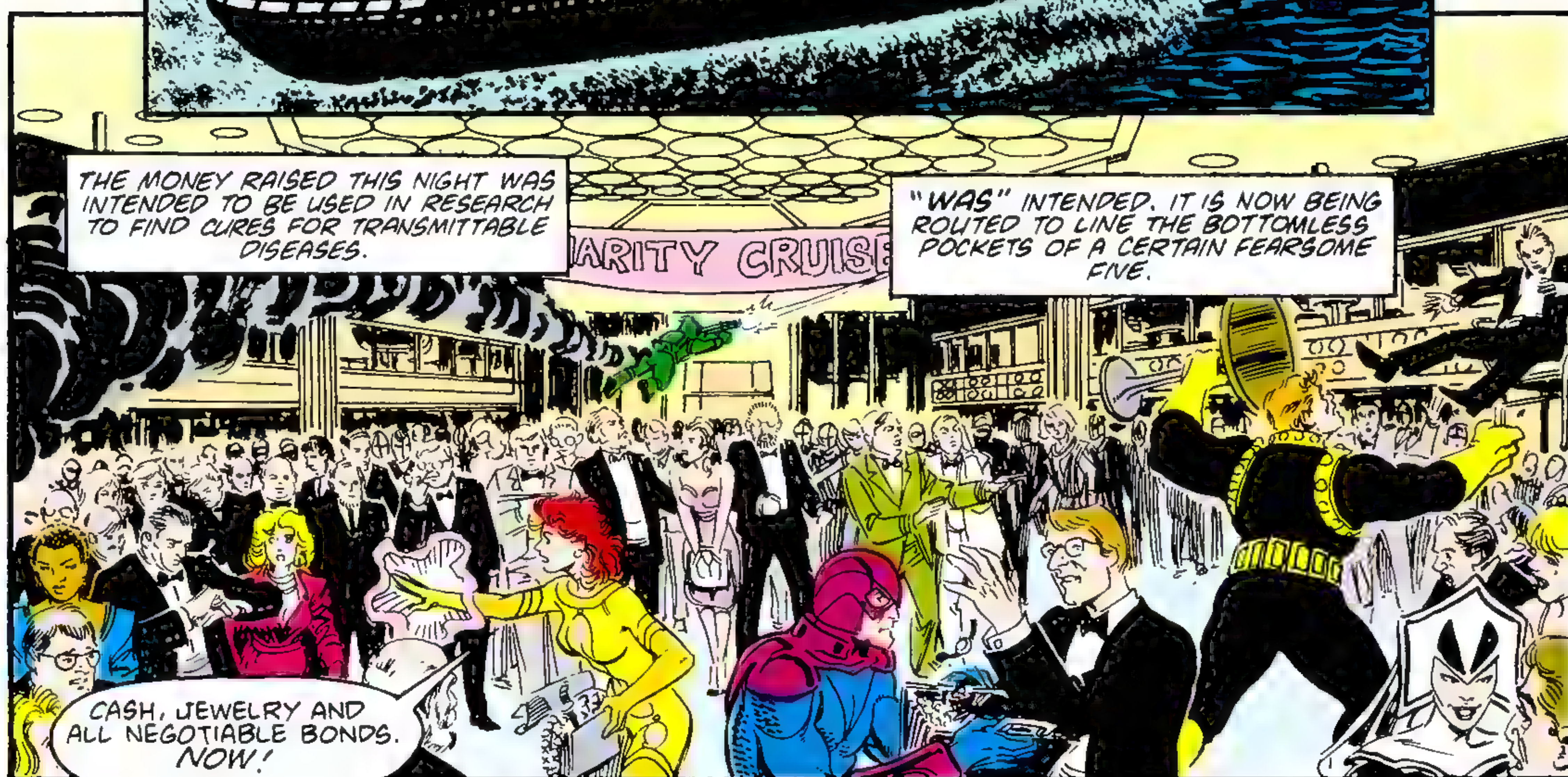


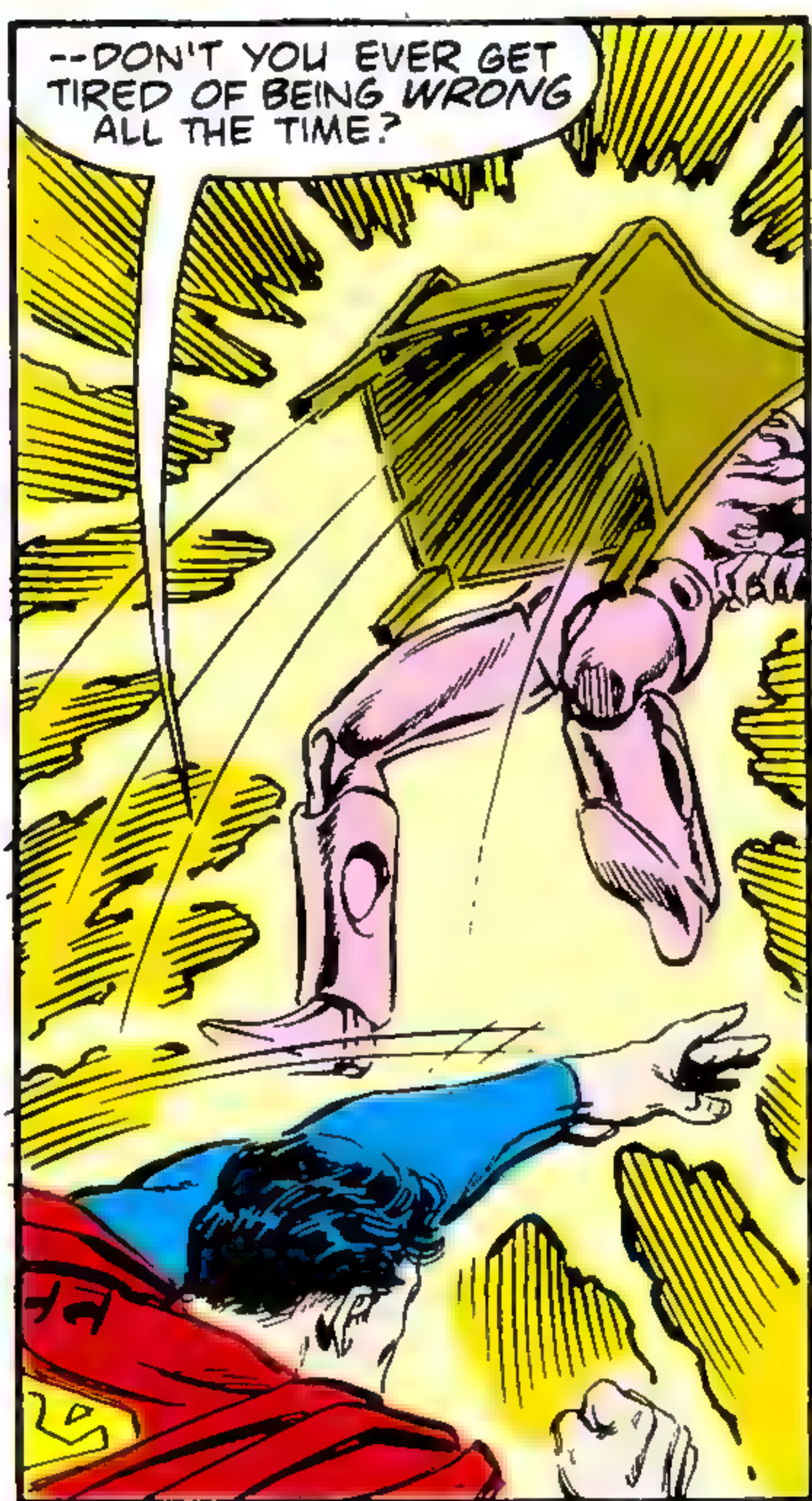
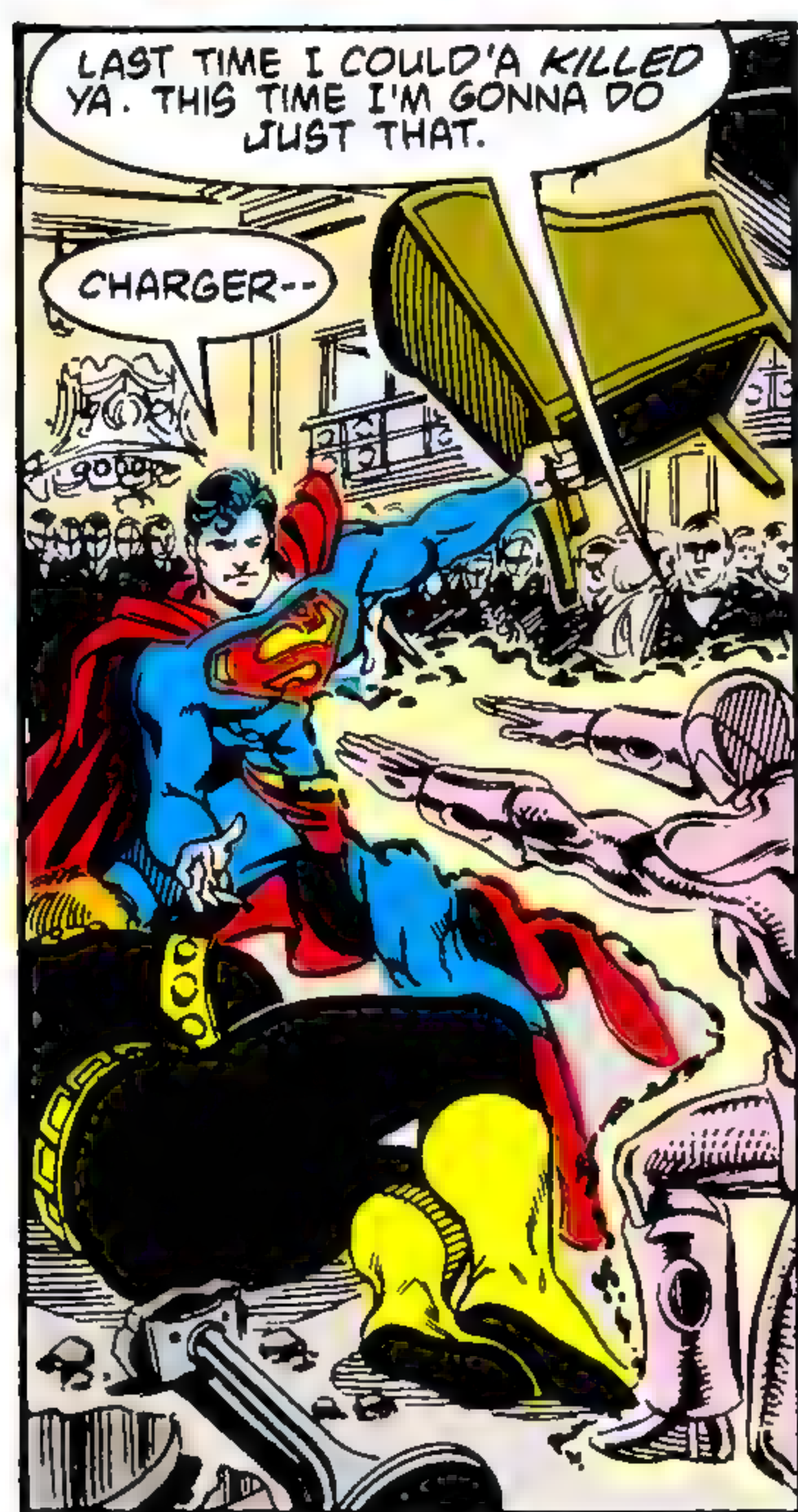
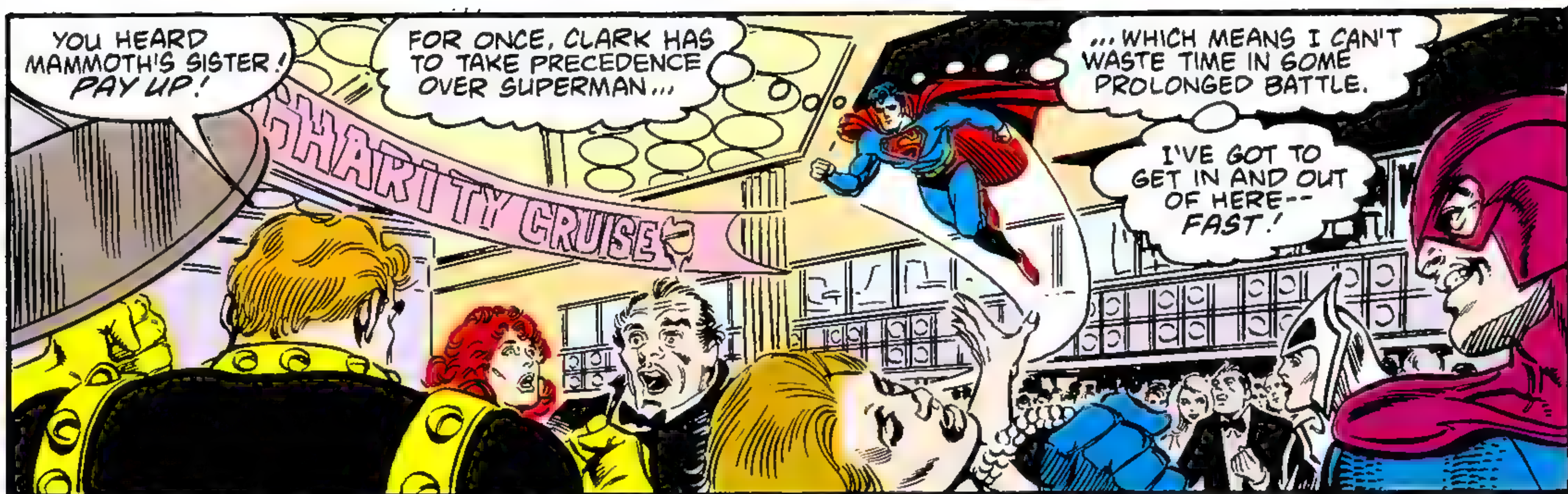
AND, FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY, THE MANDRELL SERVES AS BACKDROP TO A PARTY OF METROPOLIS' MOST WEALTHY SAMARITANS...

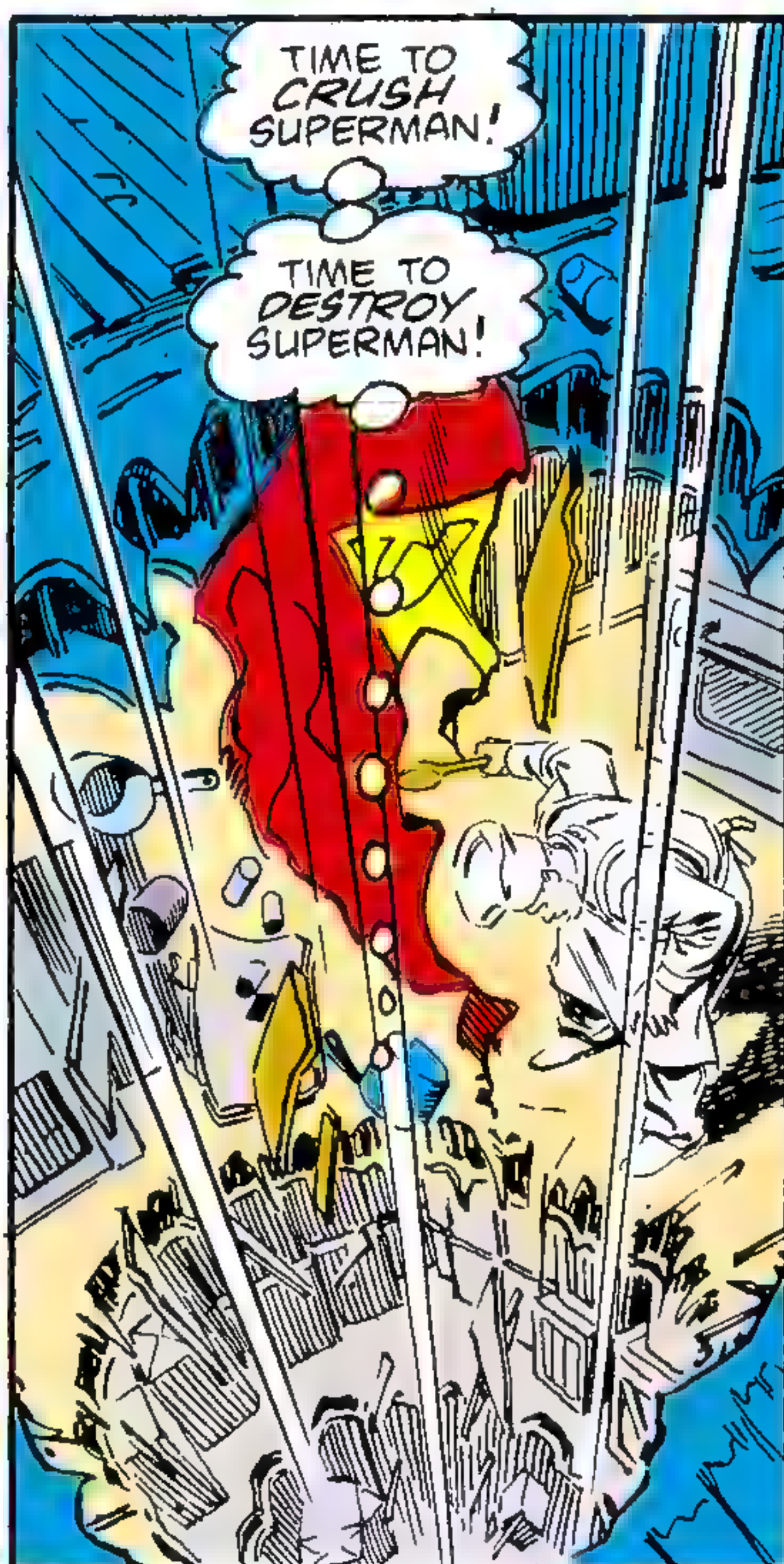
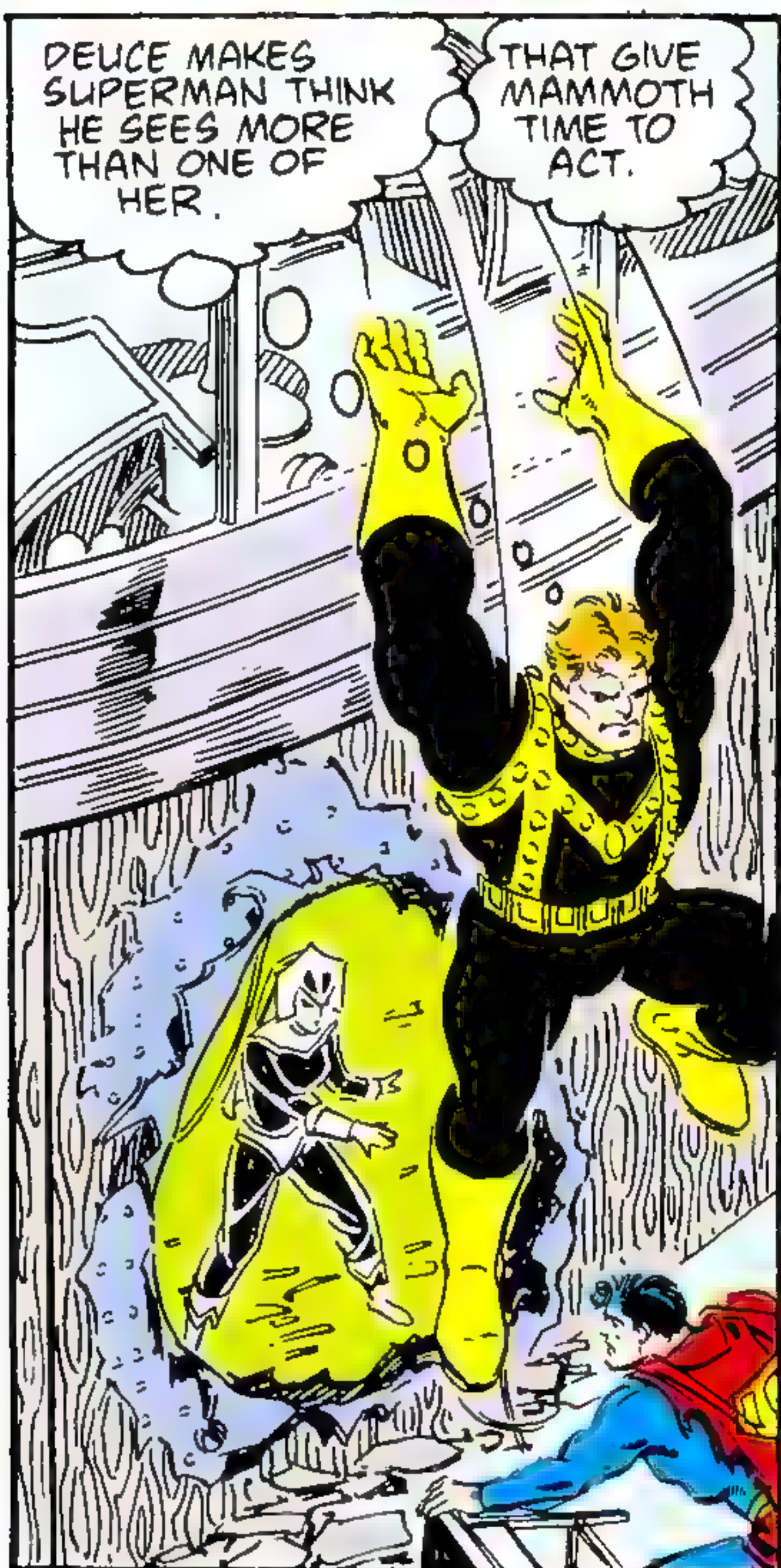
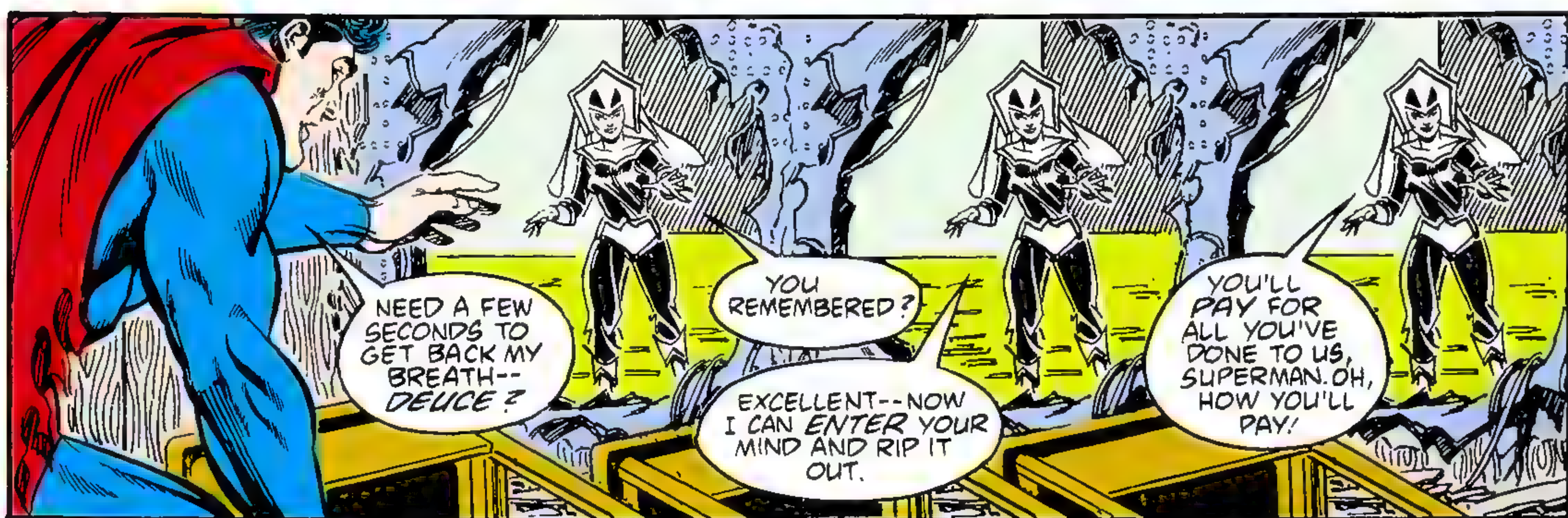
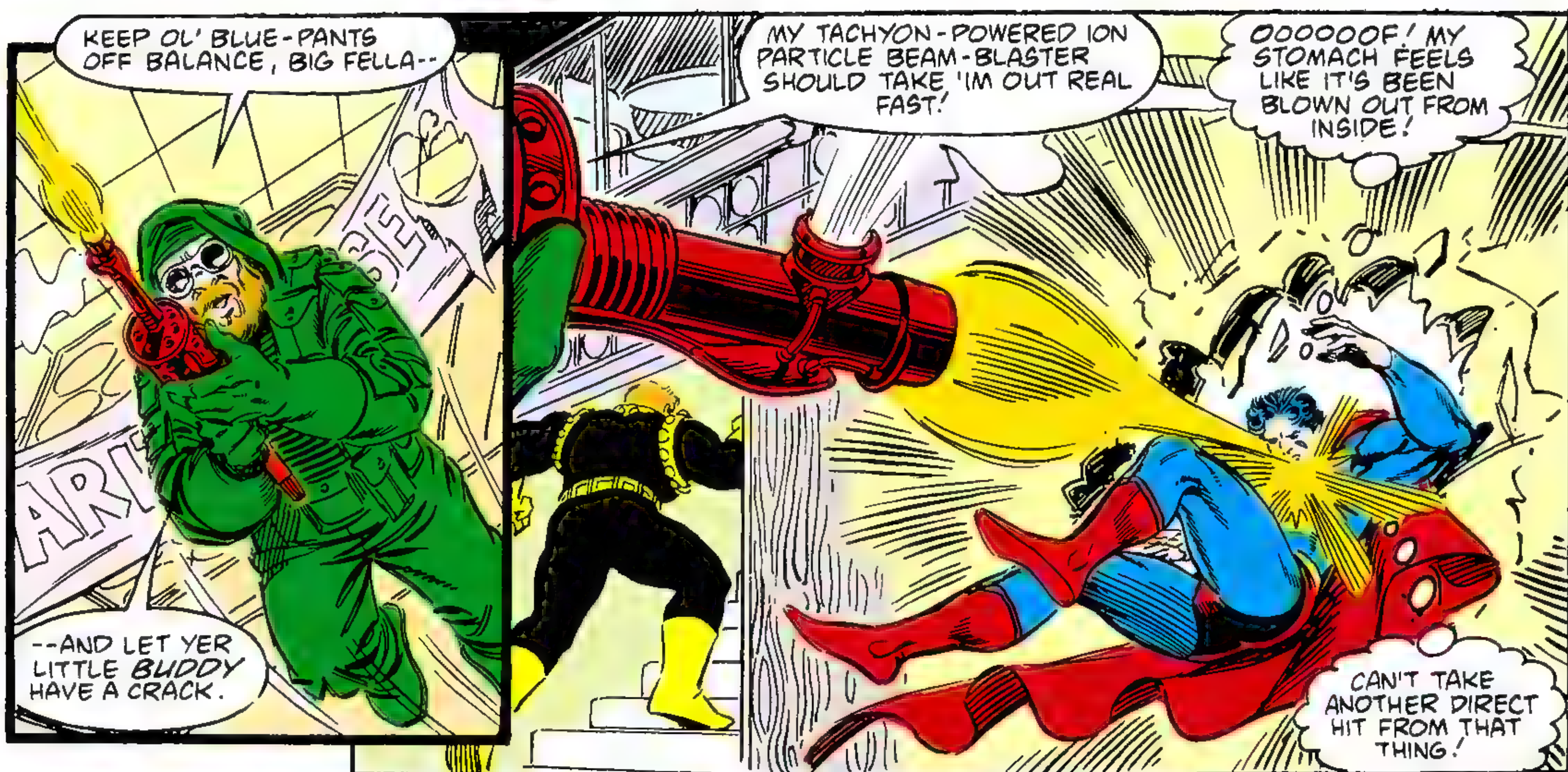
THE MONEY RAISED THIS NIGHT WAS INTENDED TO BE USED IN RESEARCH TO FIND CURES FOR TRANSMITTABLE DISEASES.

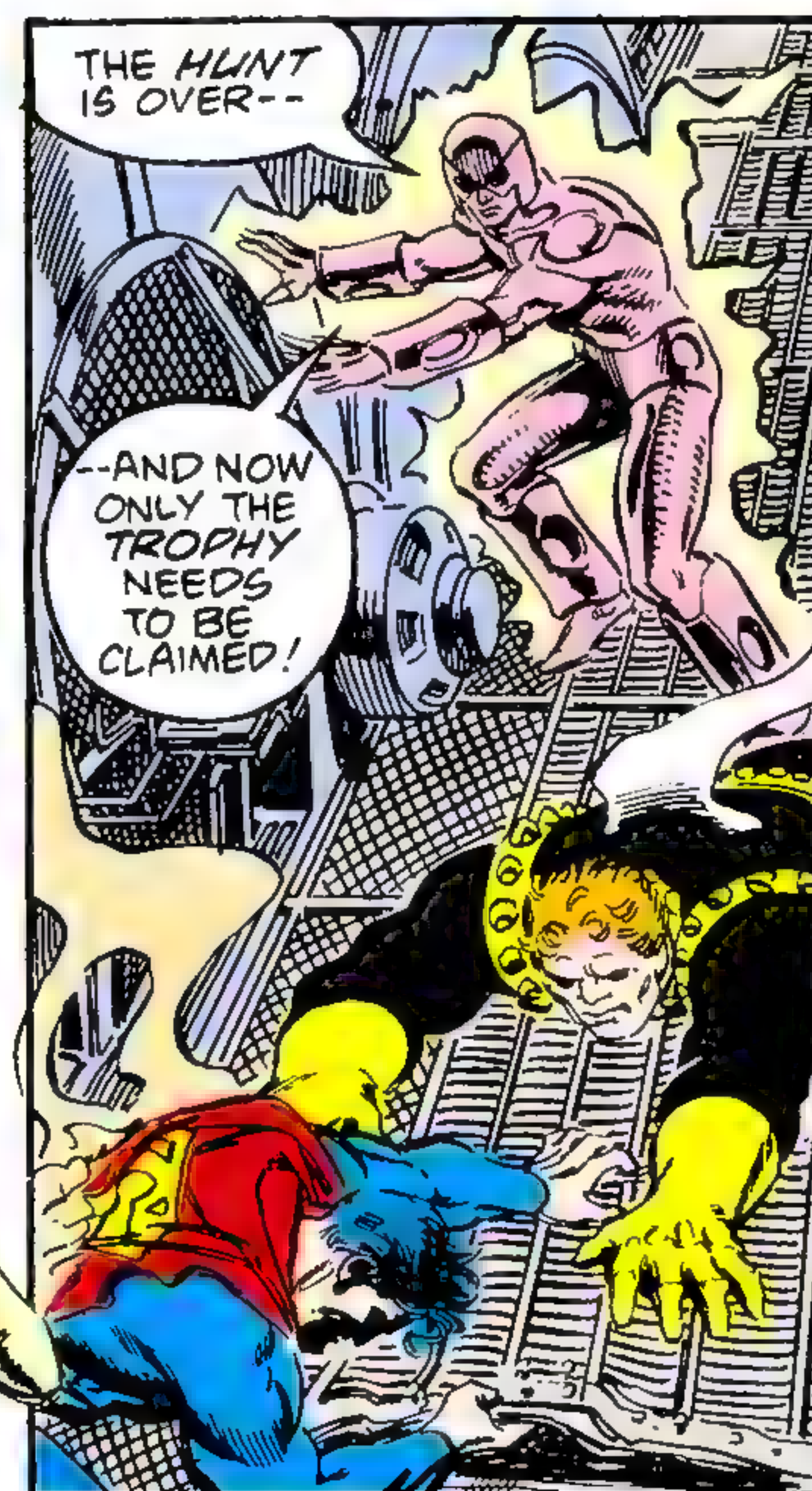
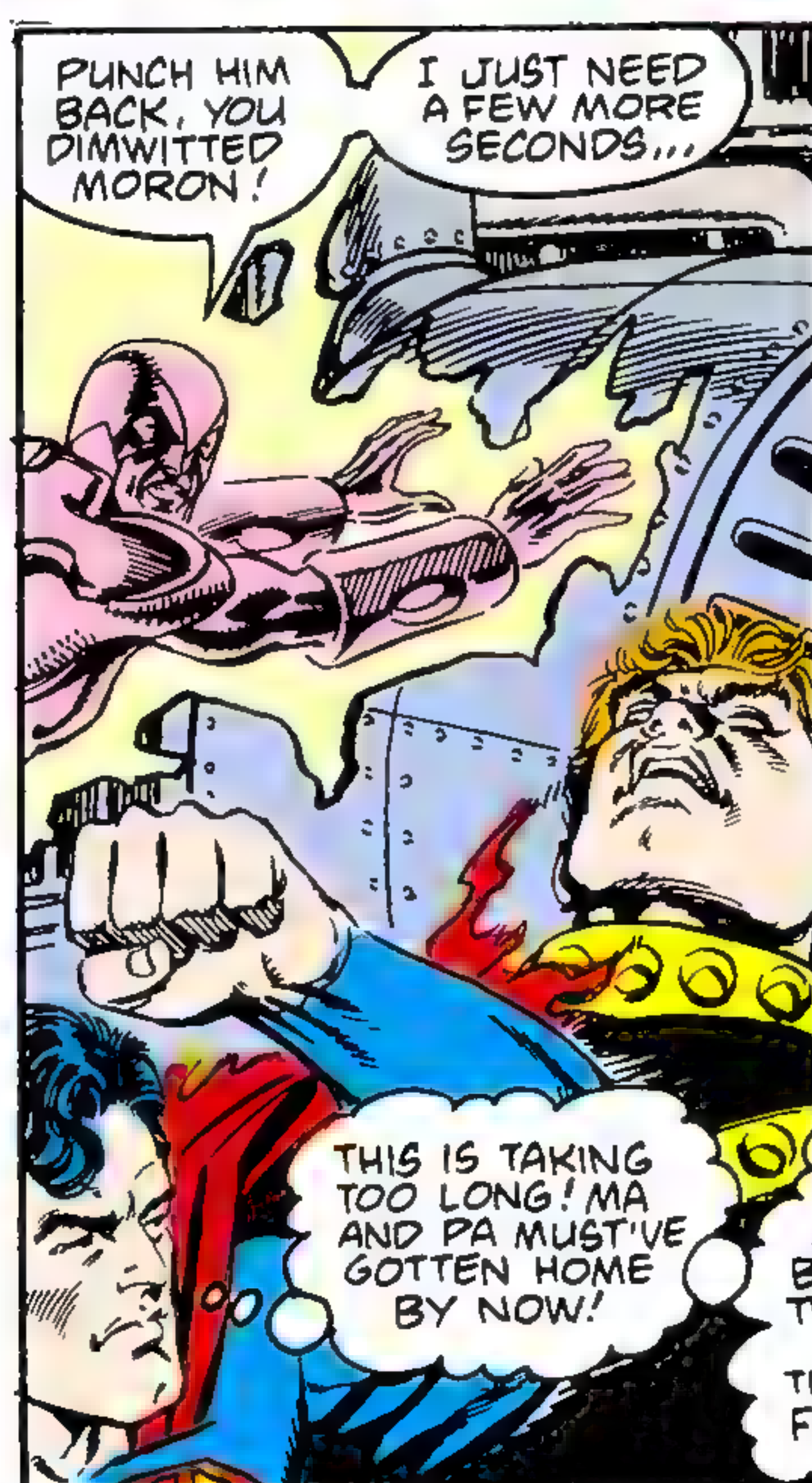
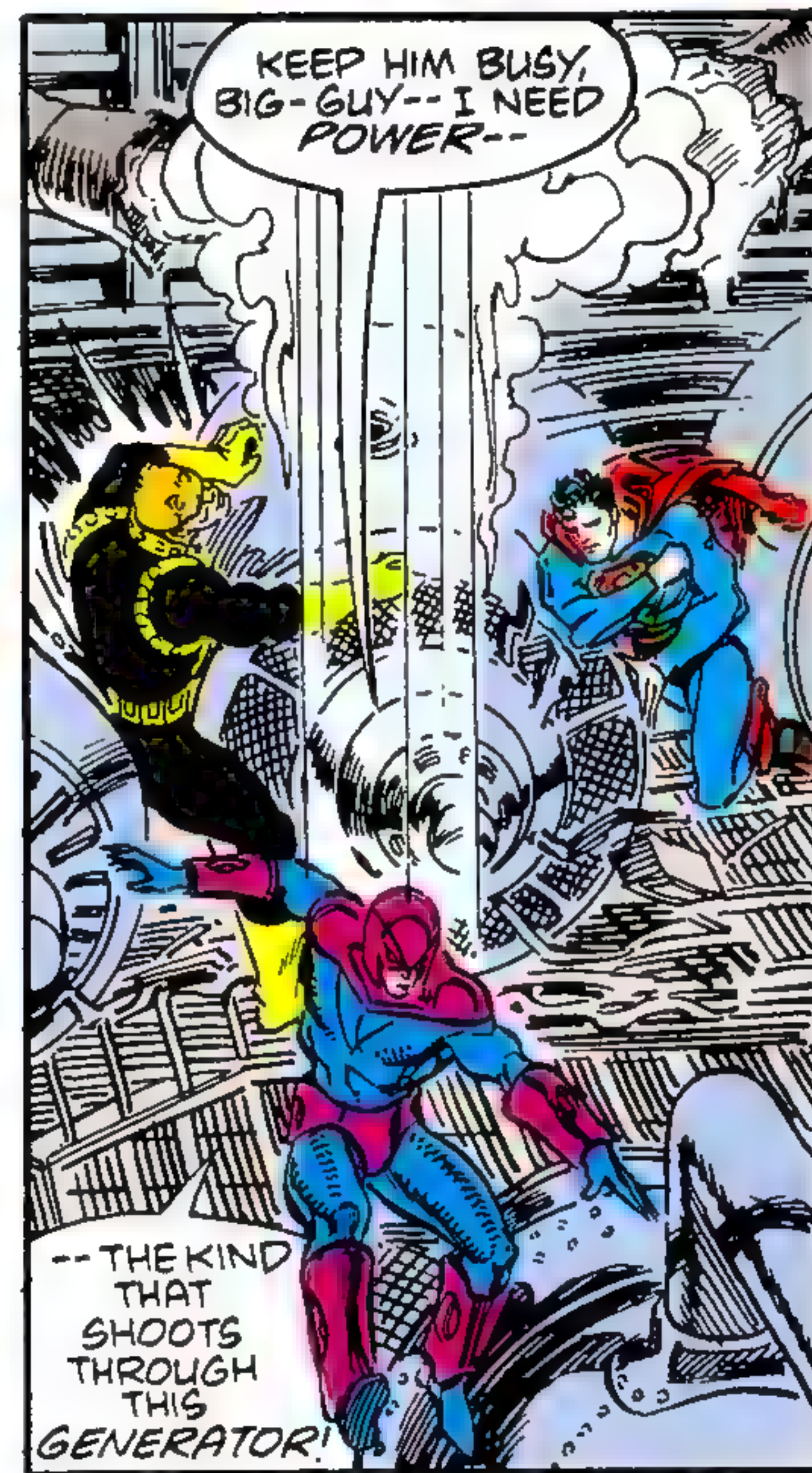
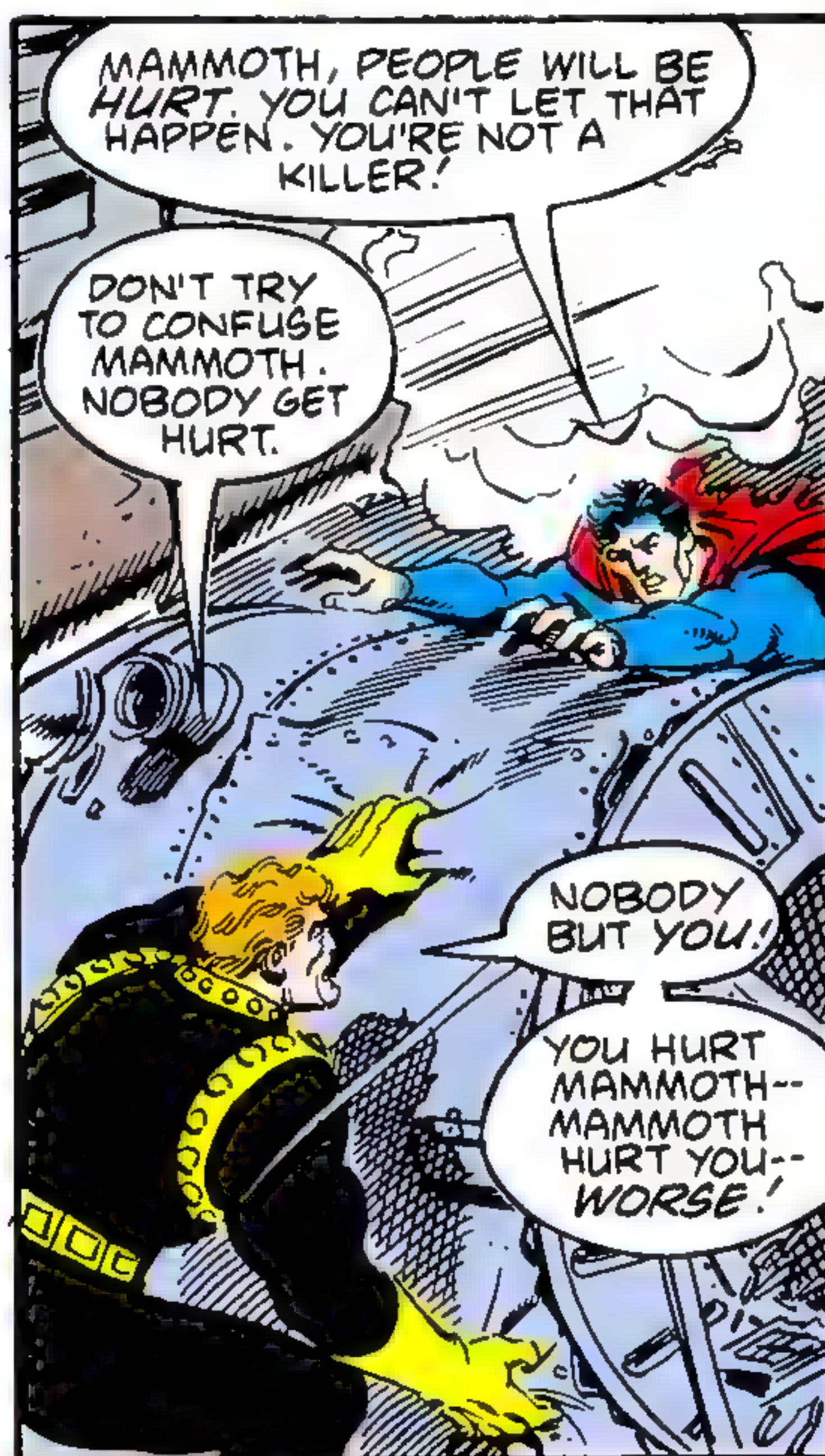
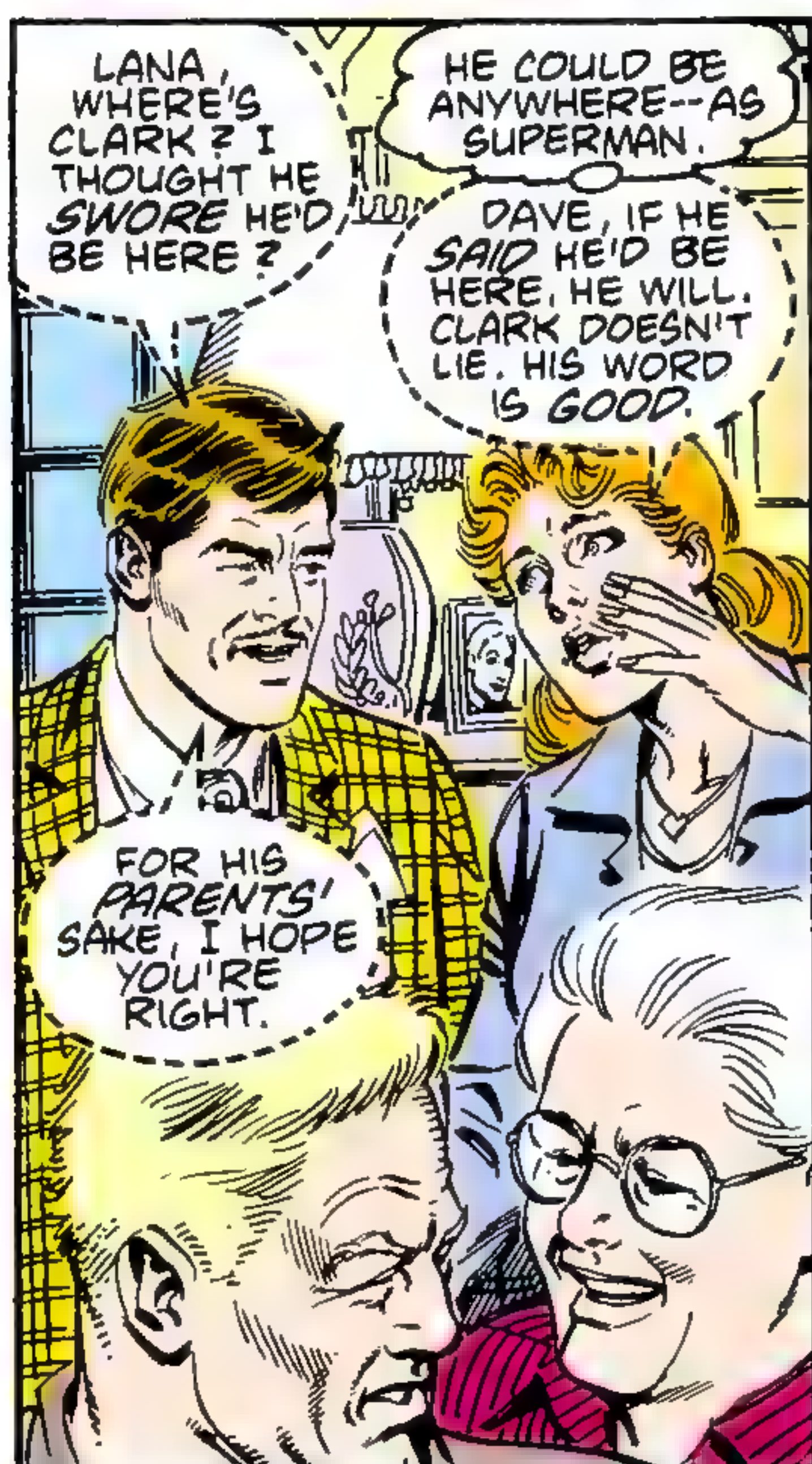
CHARITY CRUISE

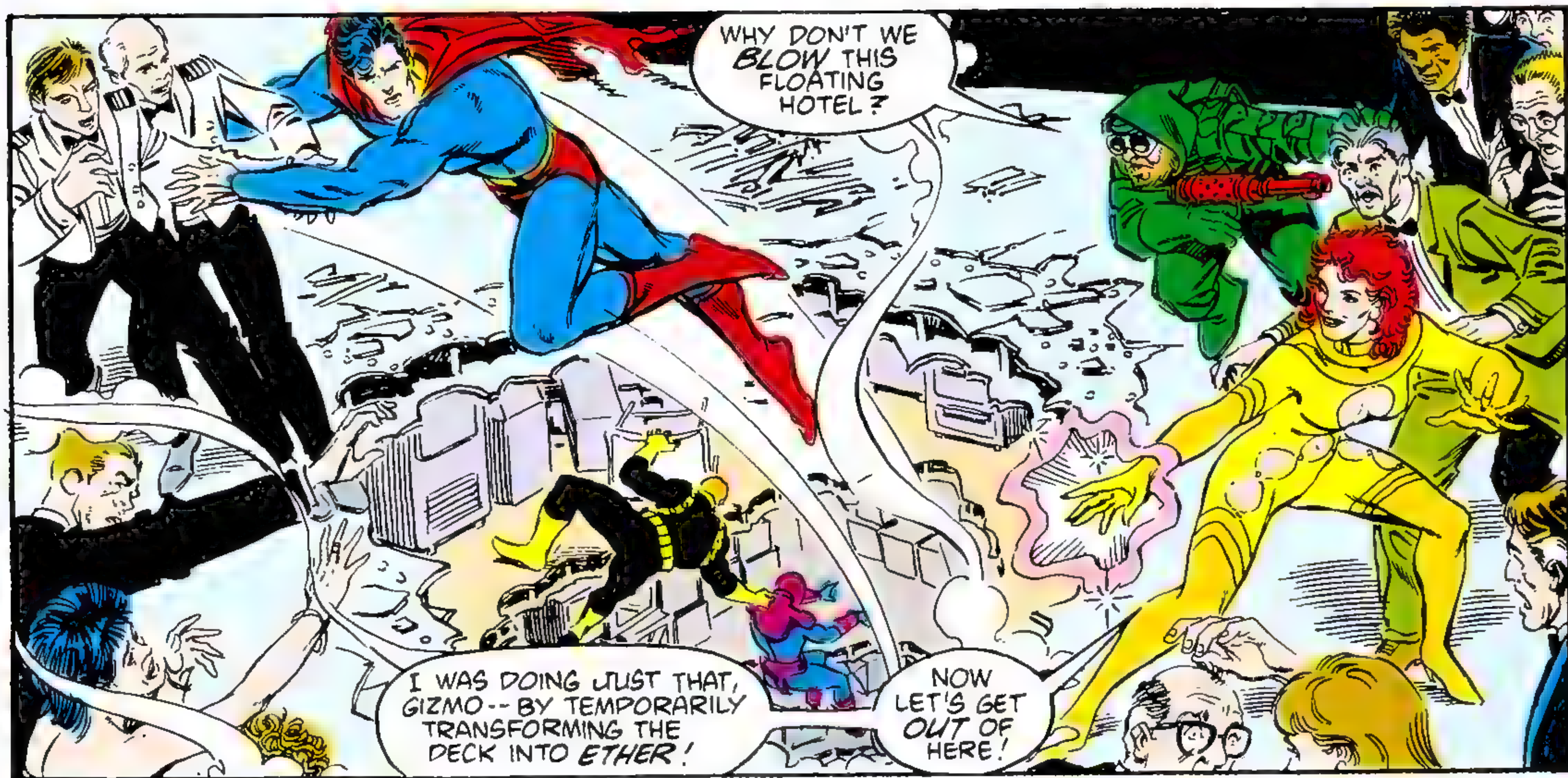
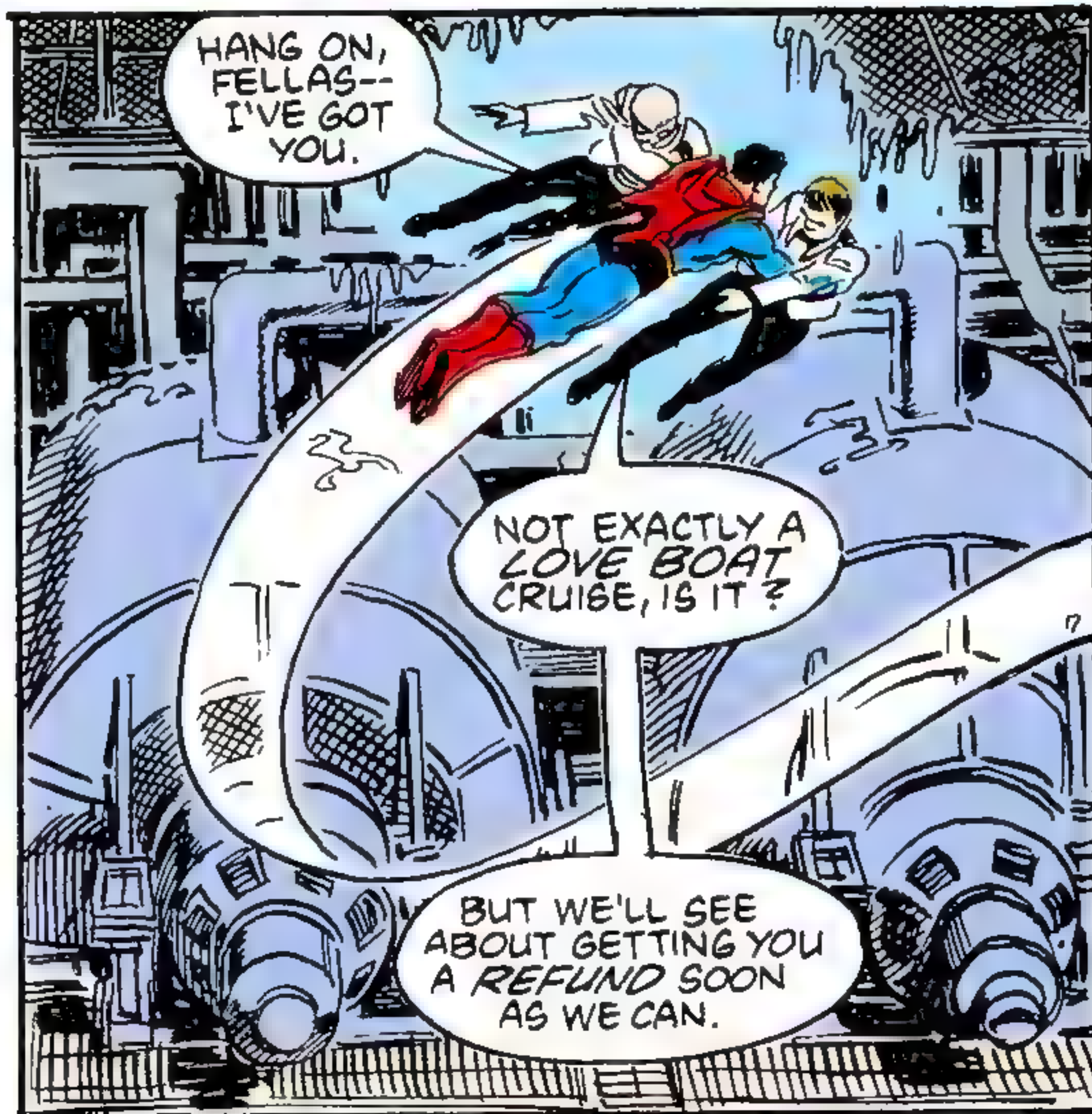
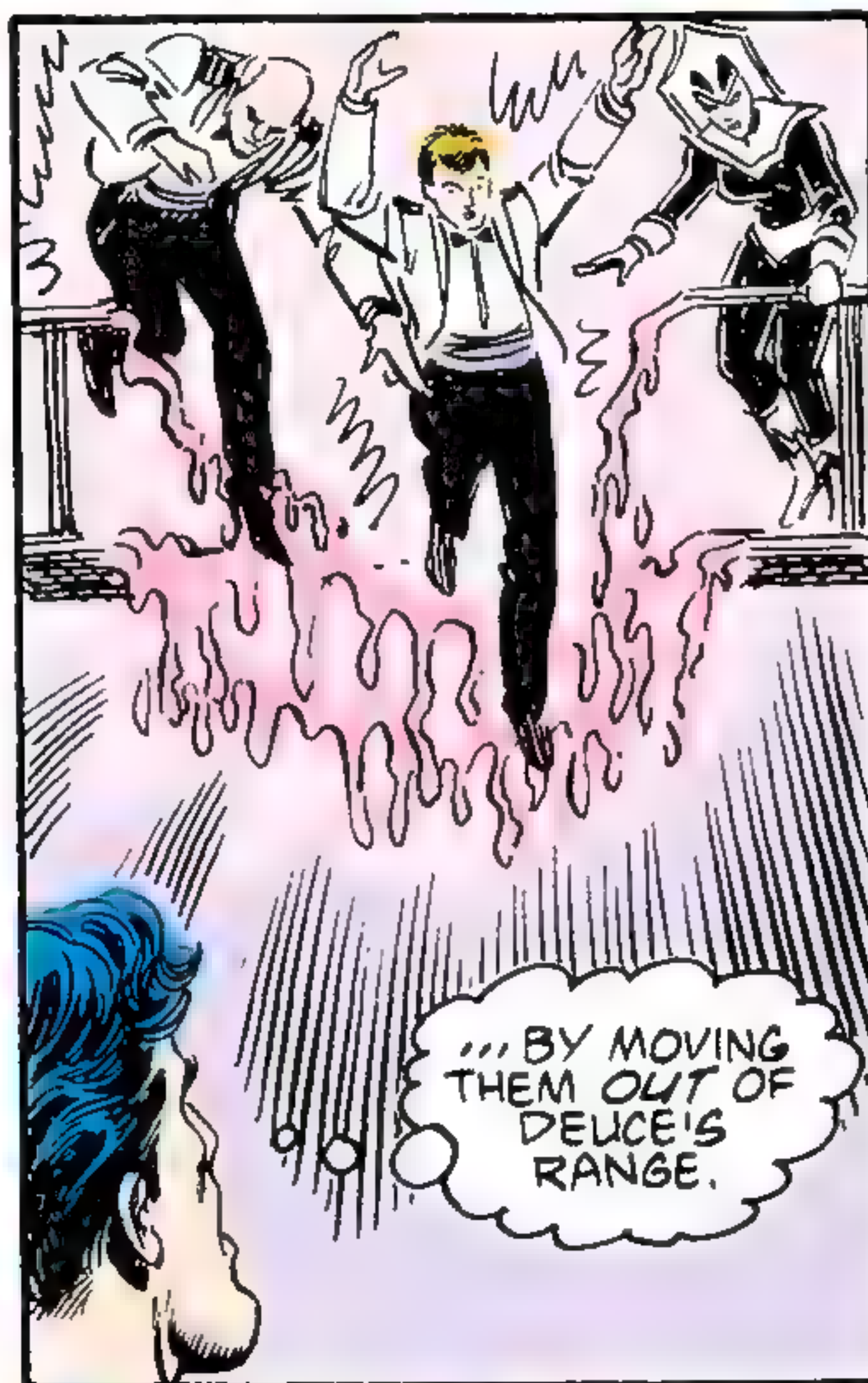
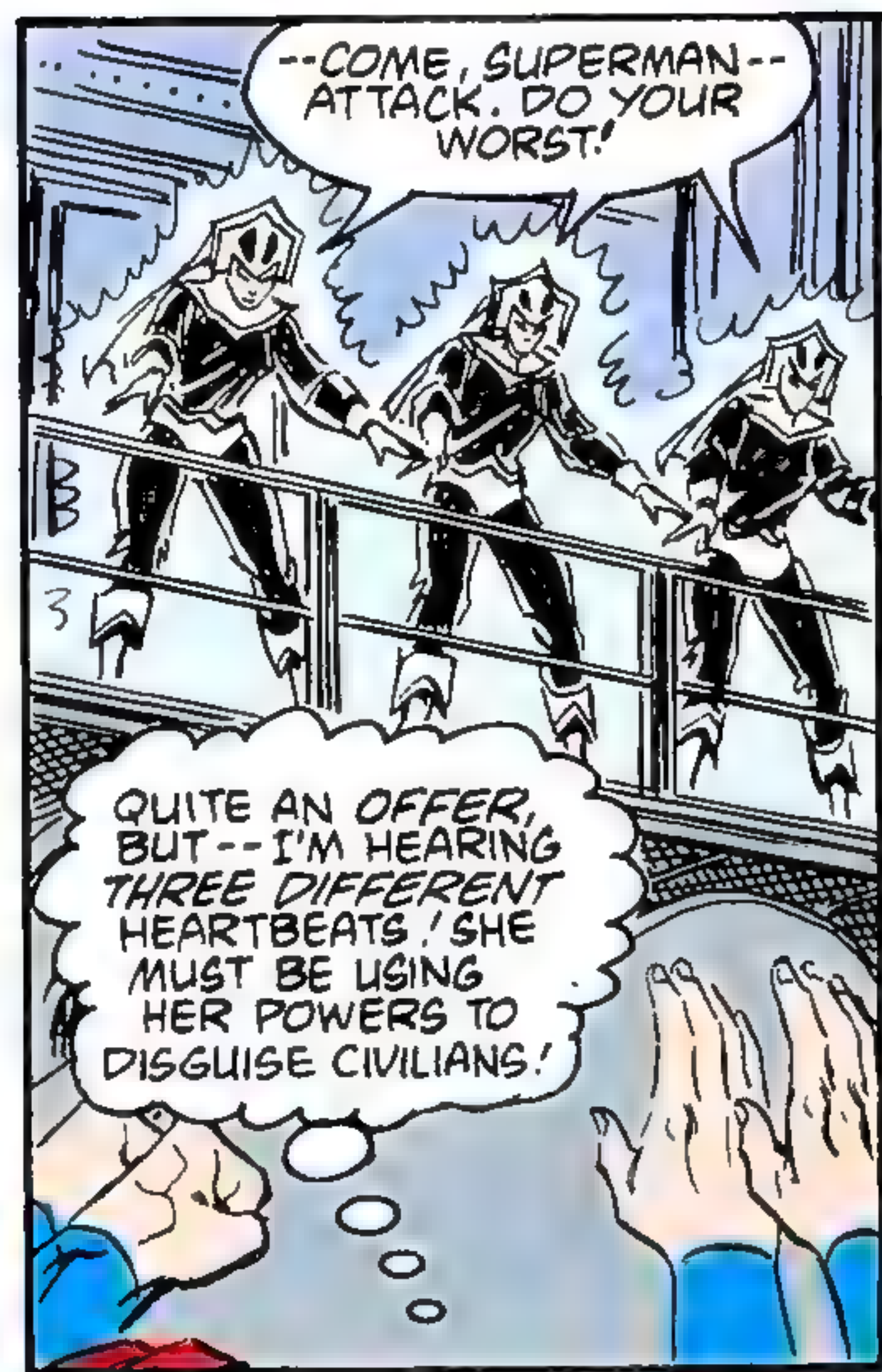
"WAS" INTENDED. IT IS NOW BEING ROUTED TO LINE THE BOTTOMLESS POCKETS OF A CERTAIN FEARSOME FIVE.

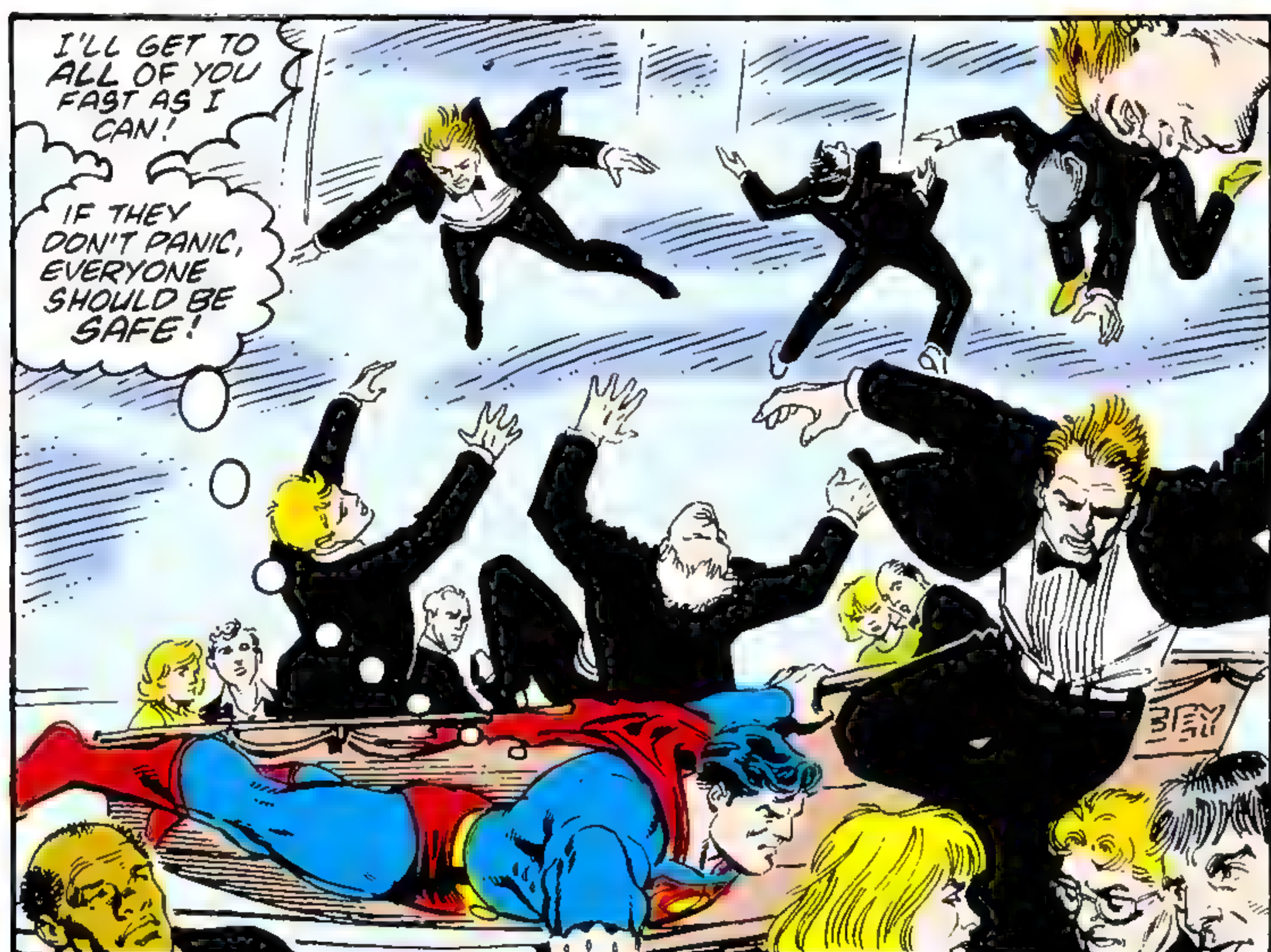
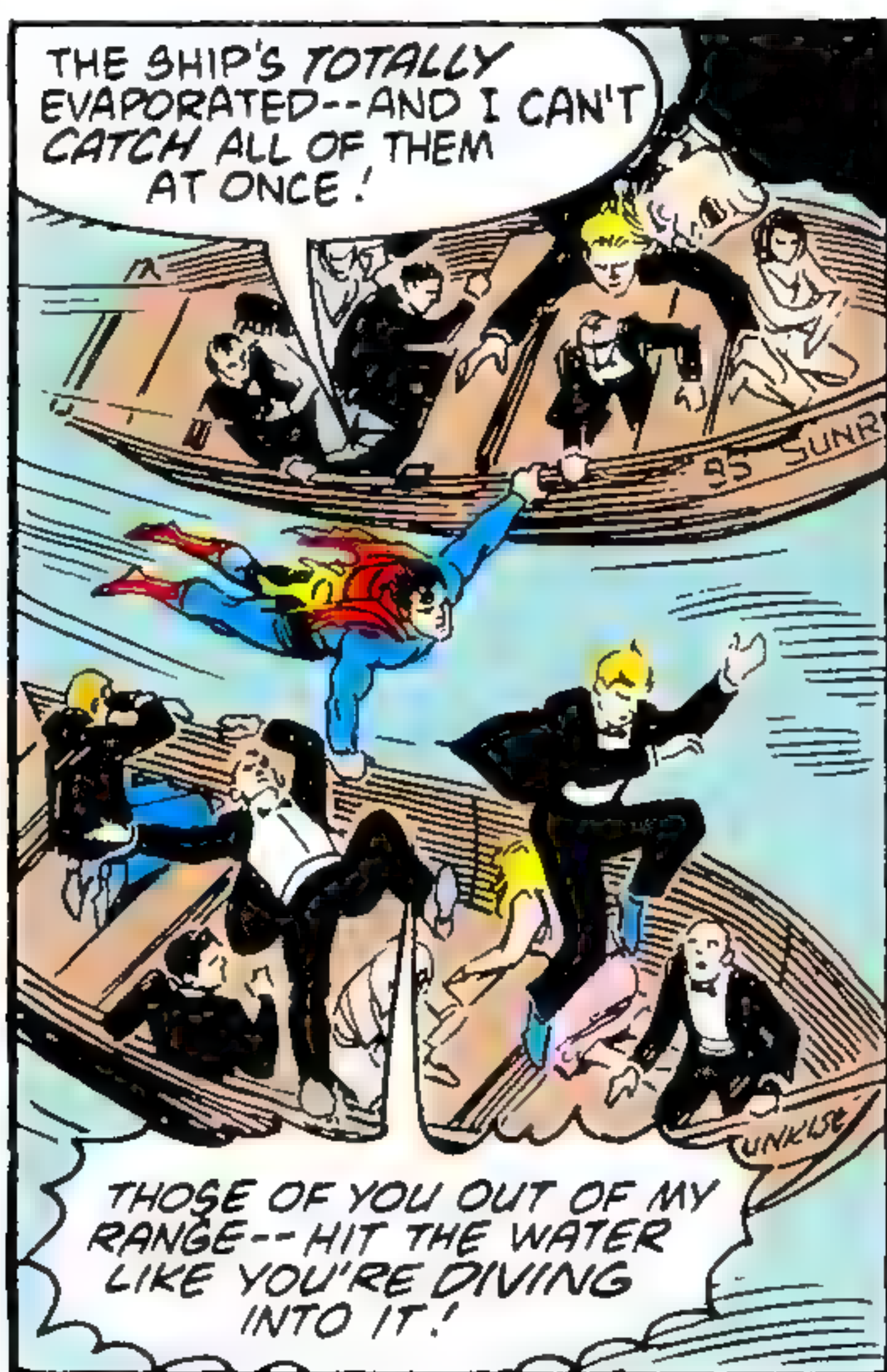
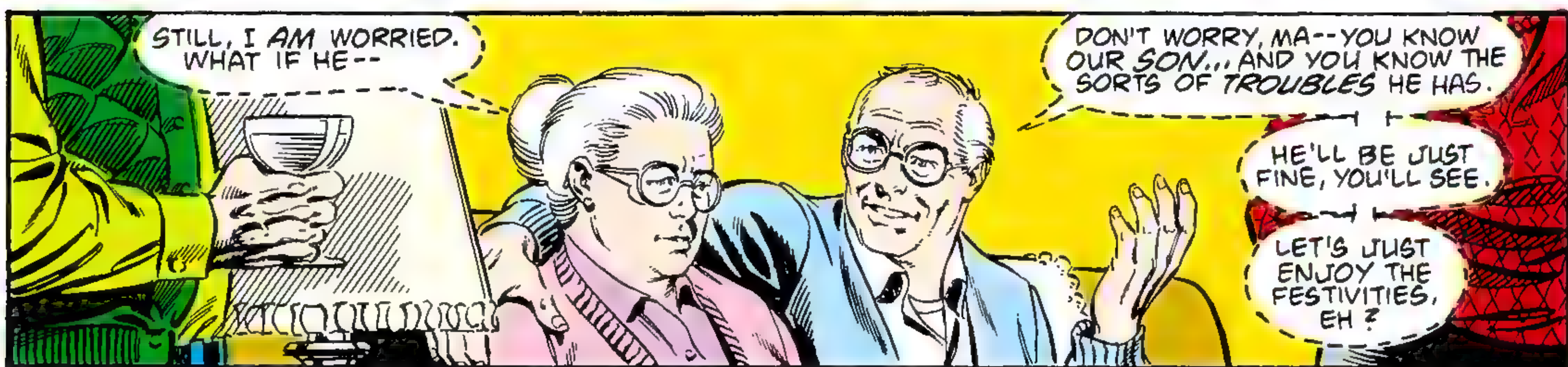
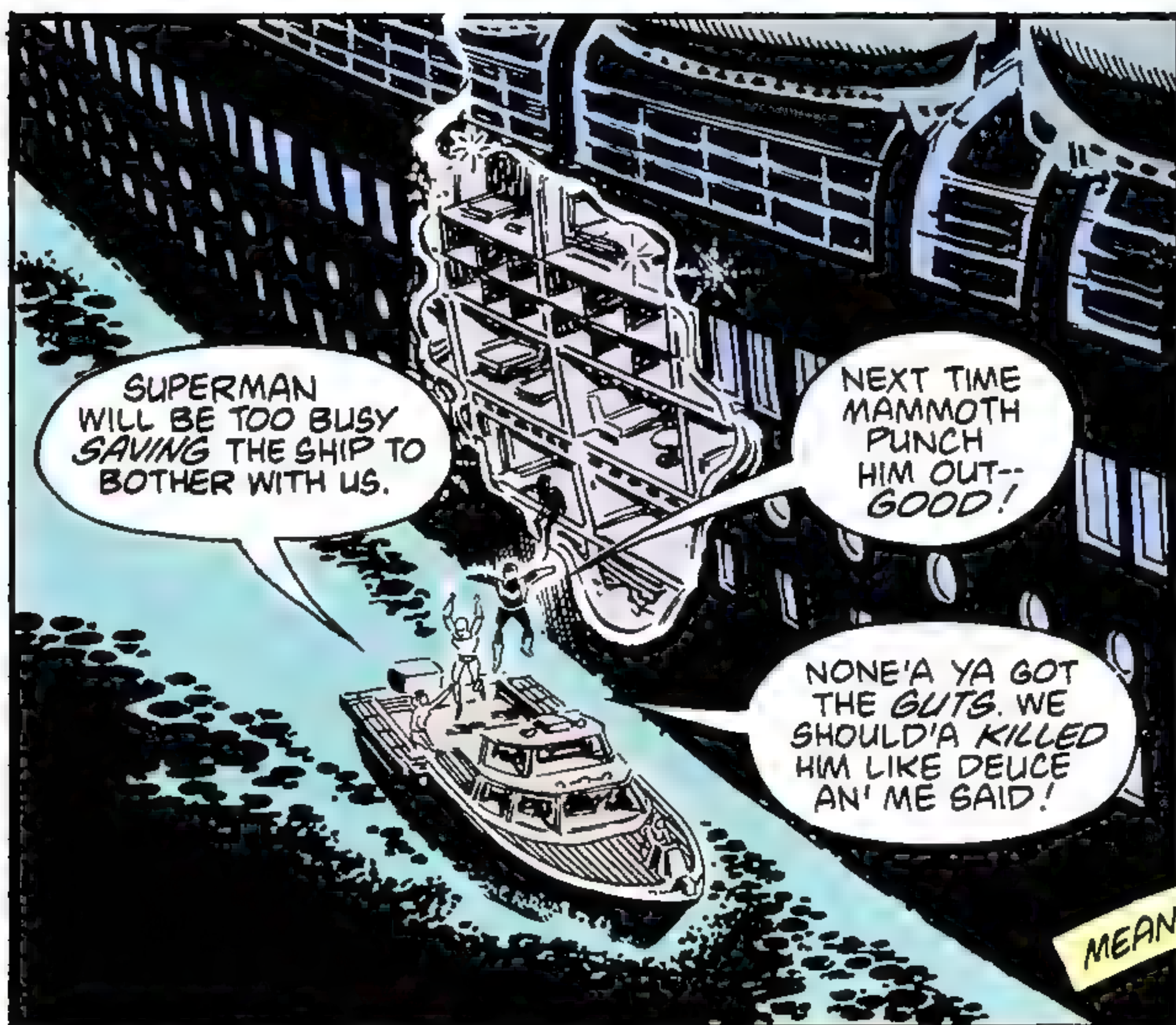


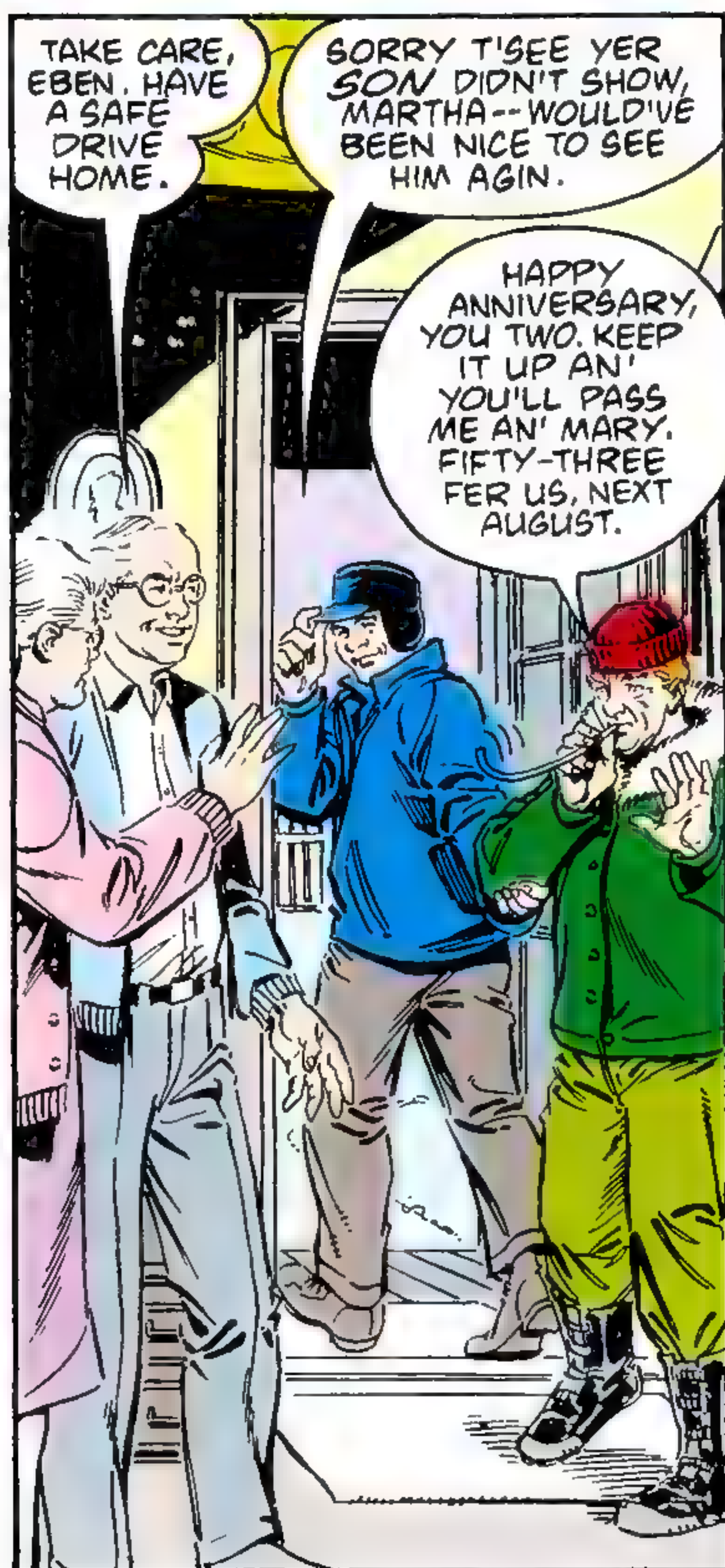
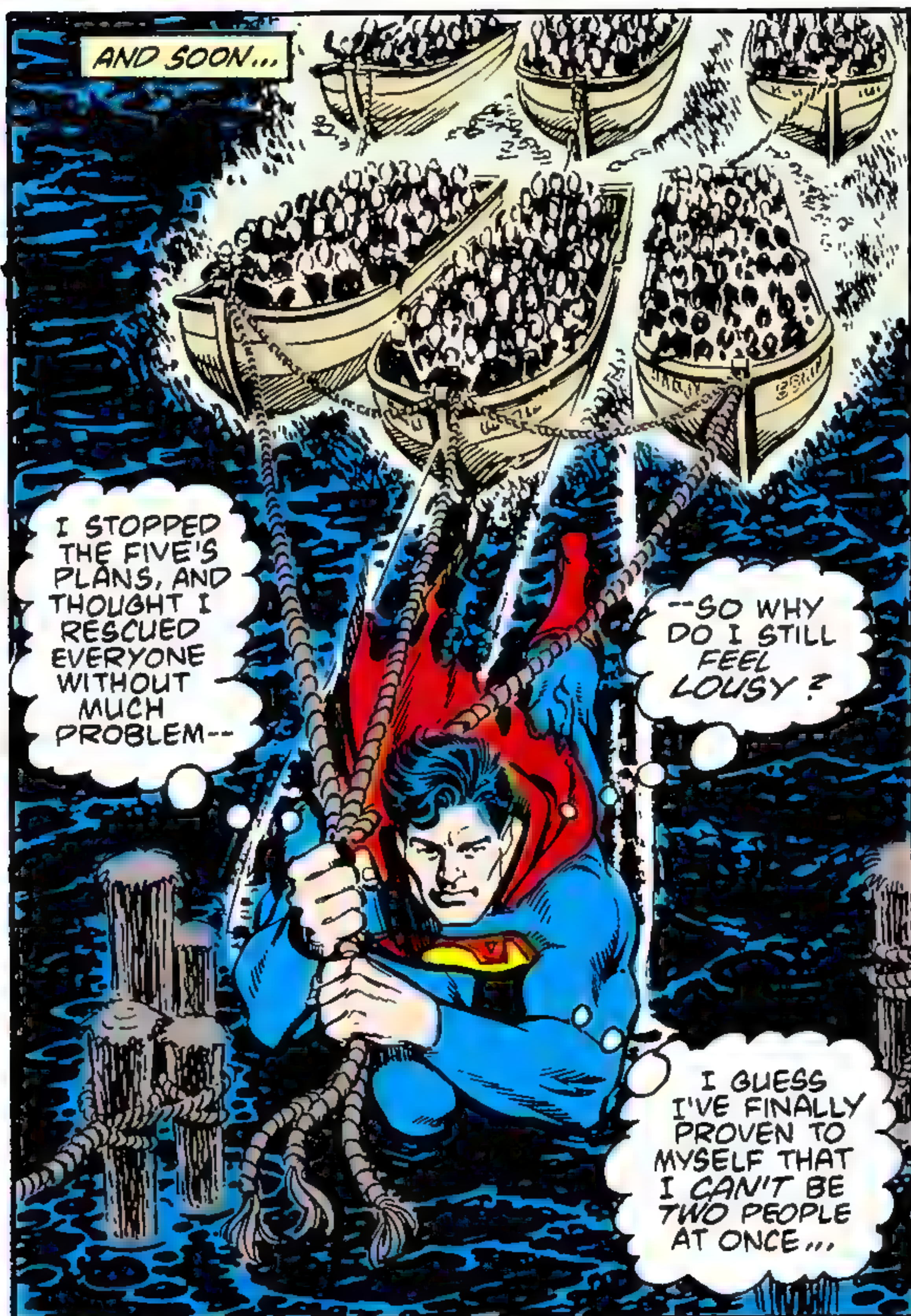


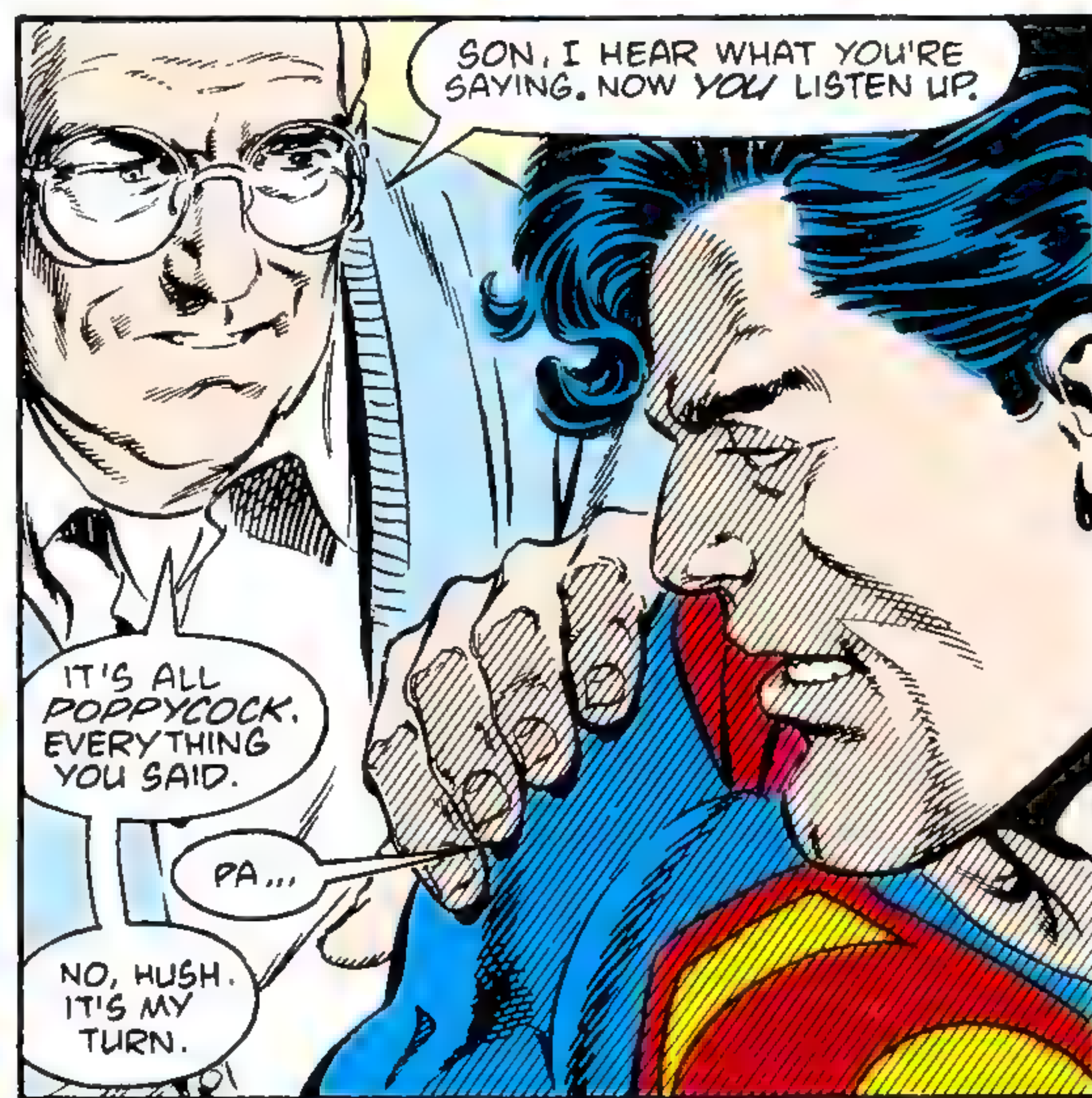
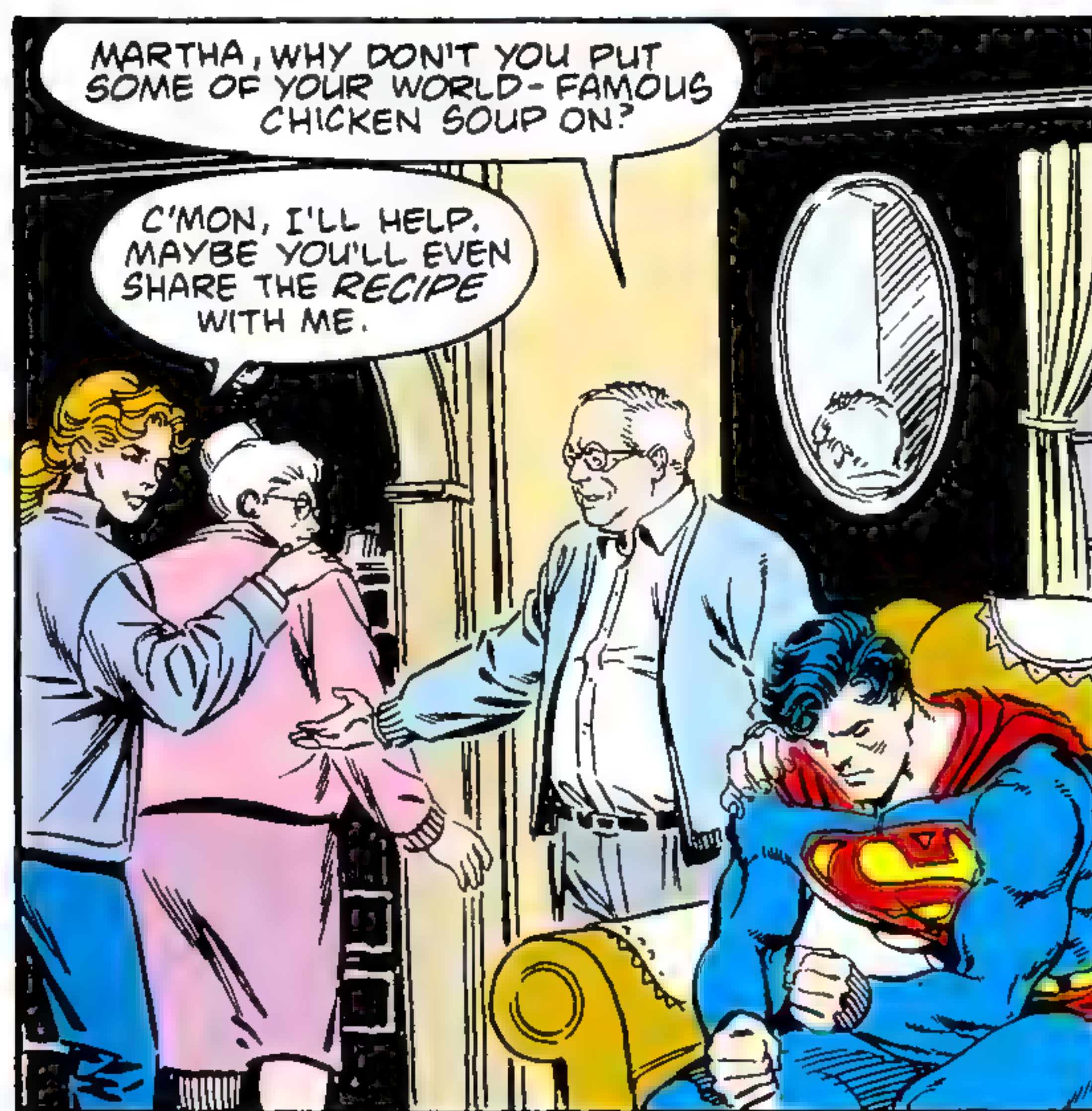
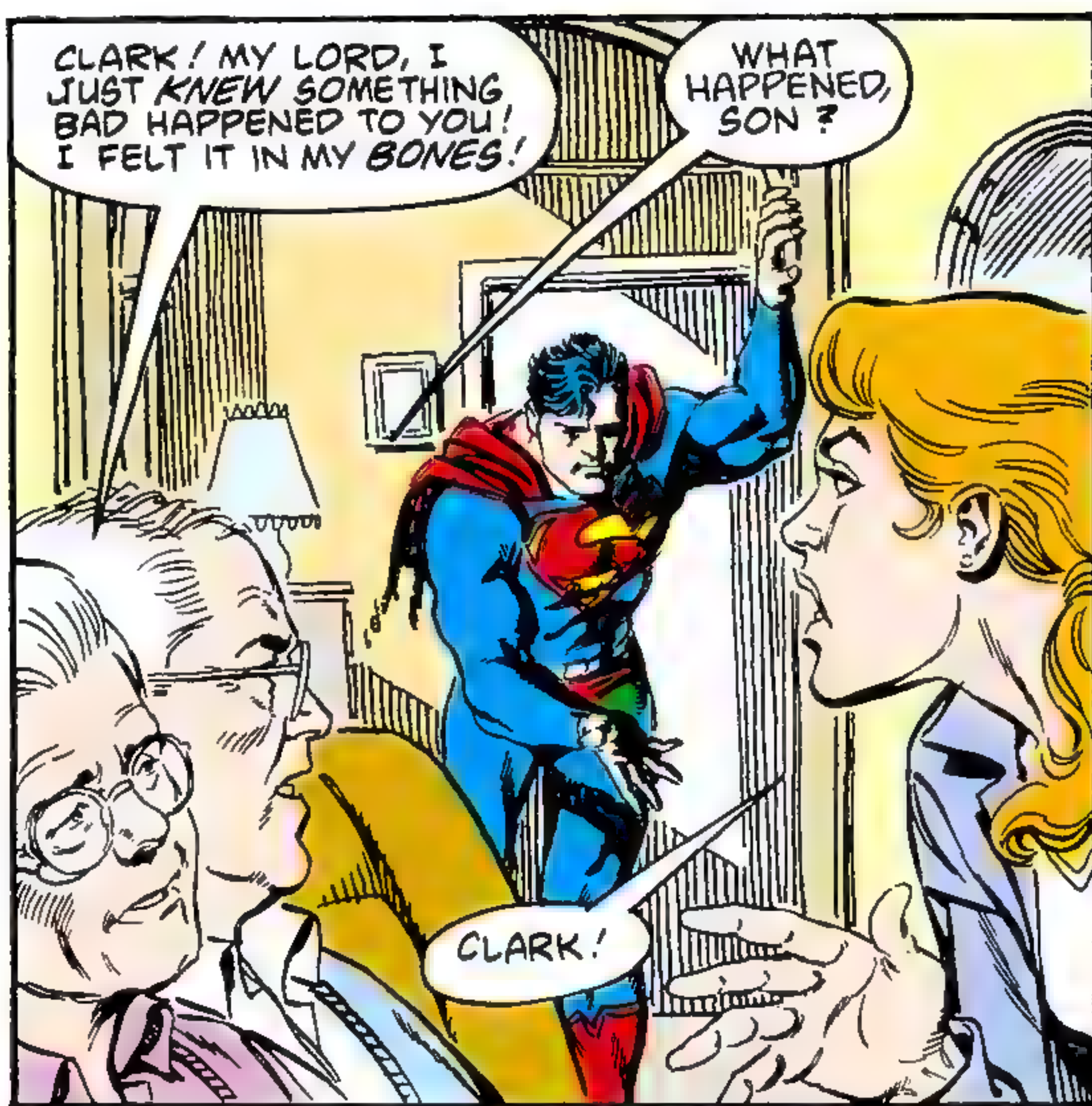


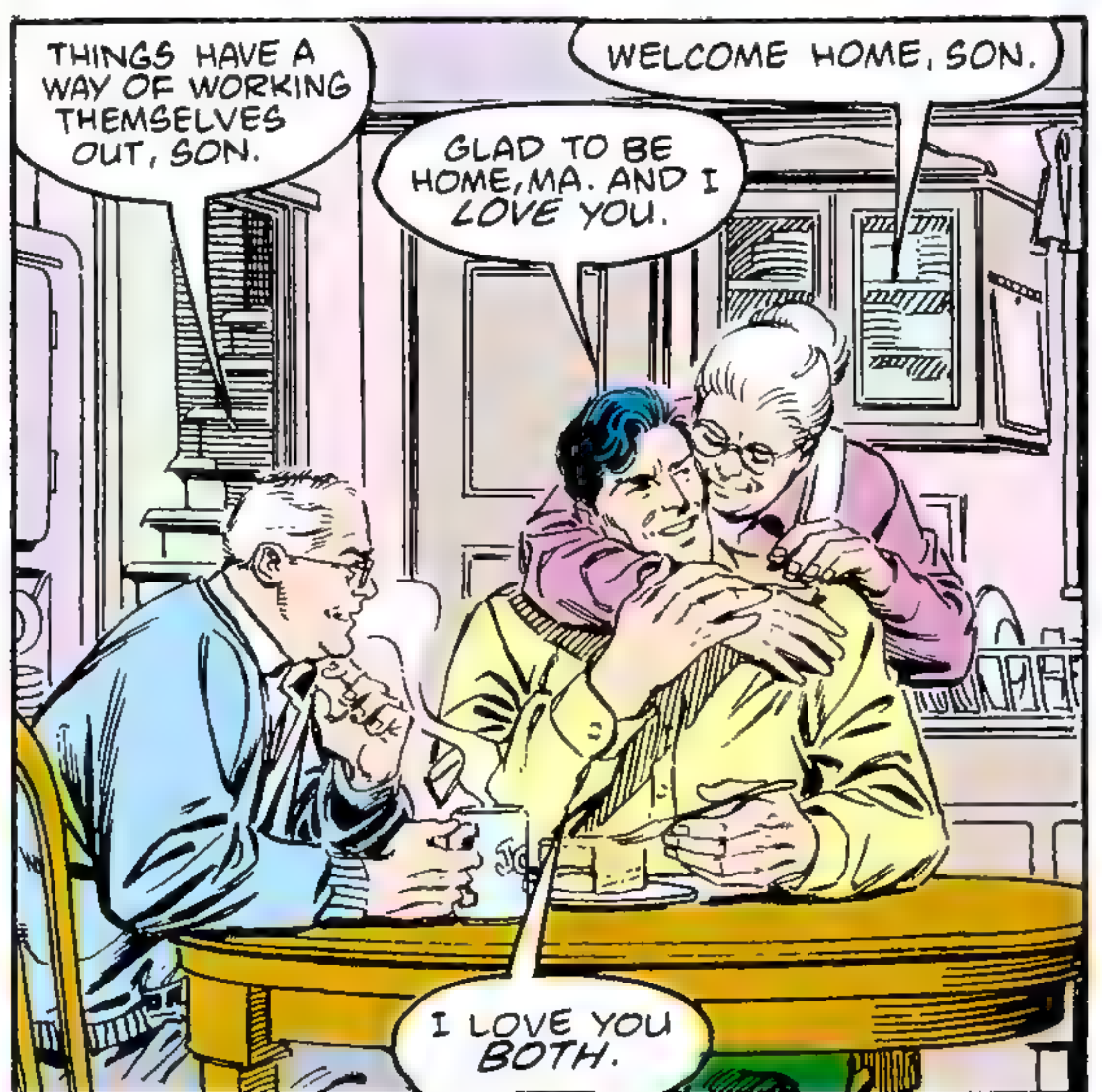
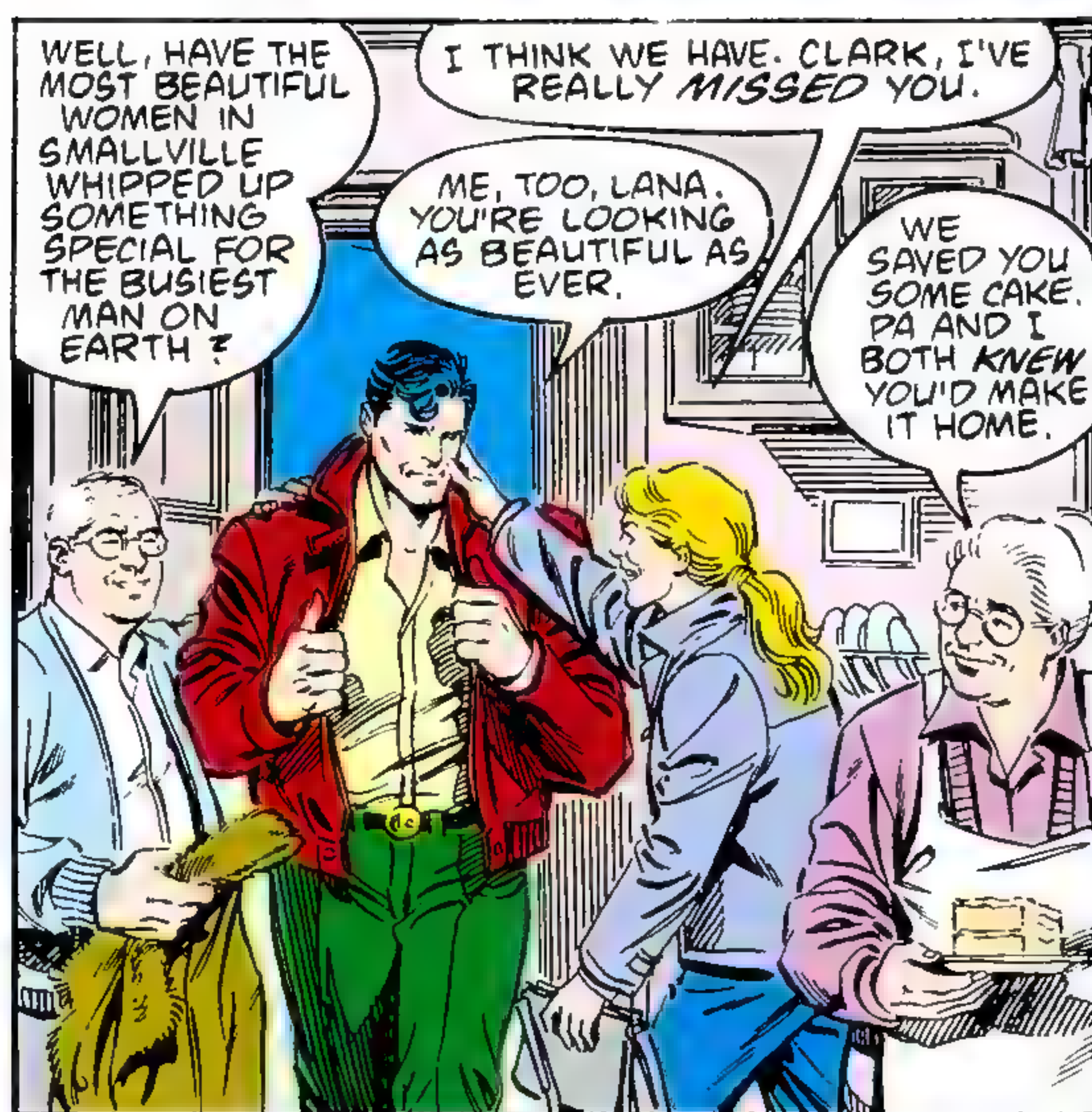
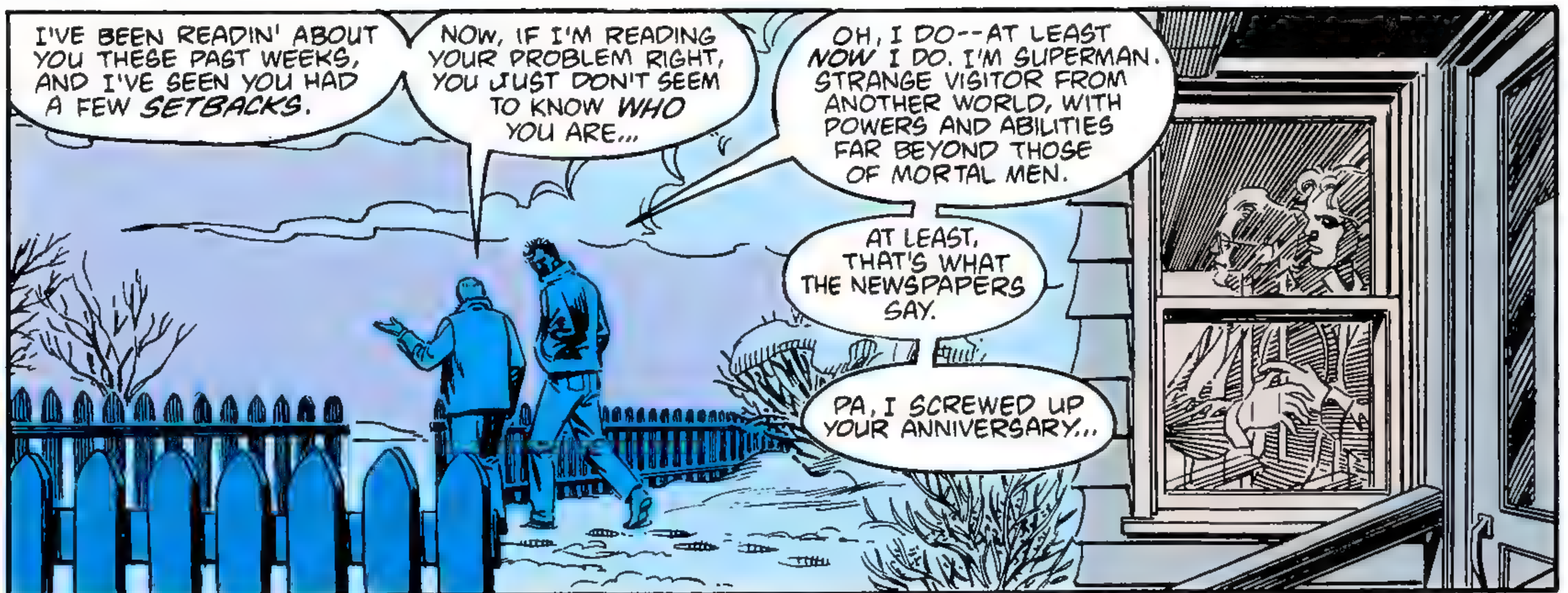


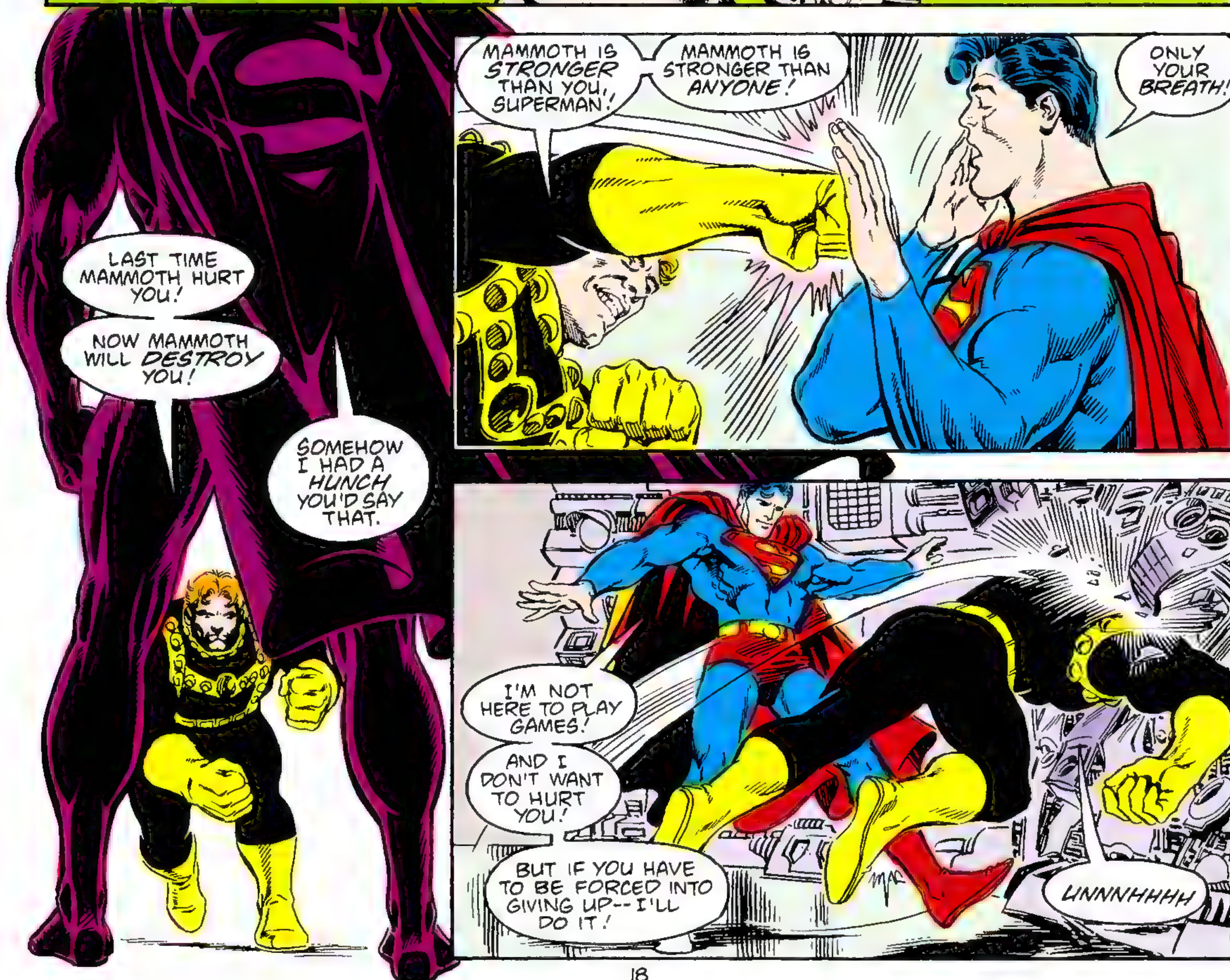
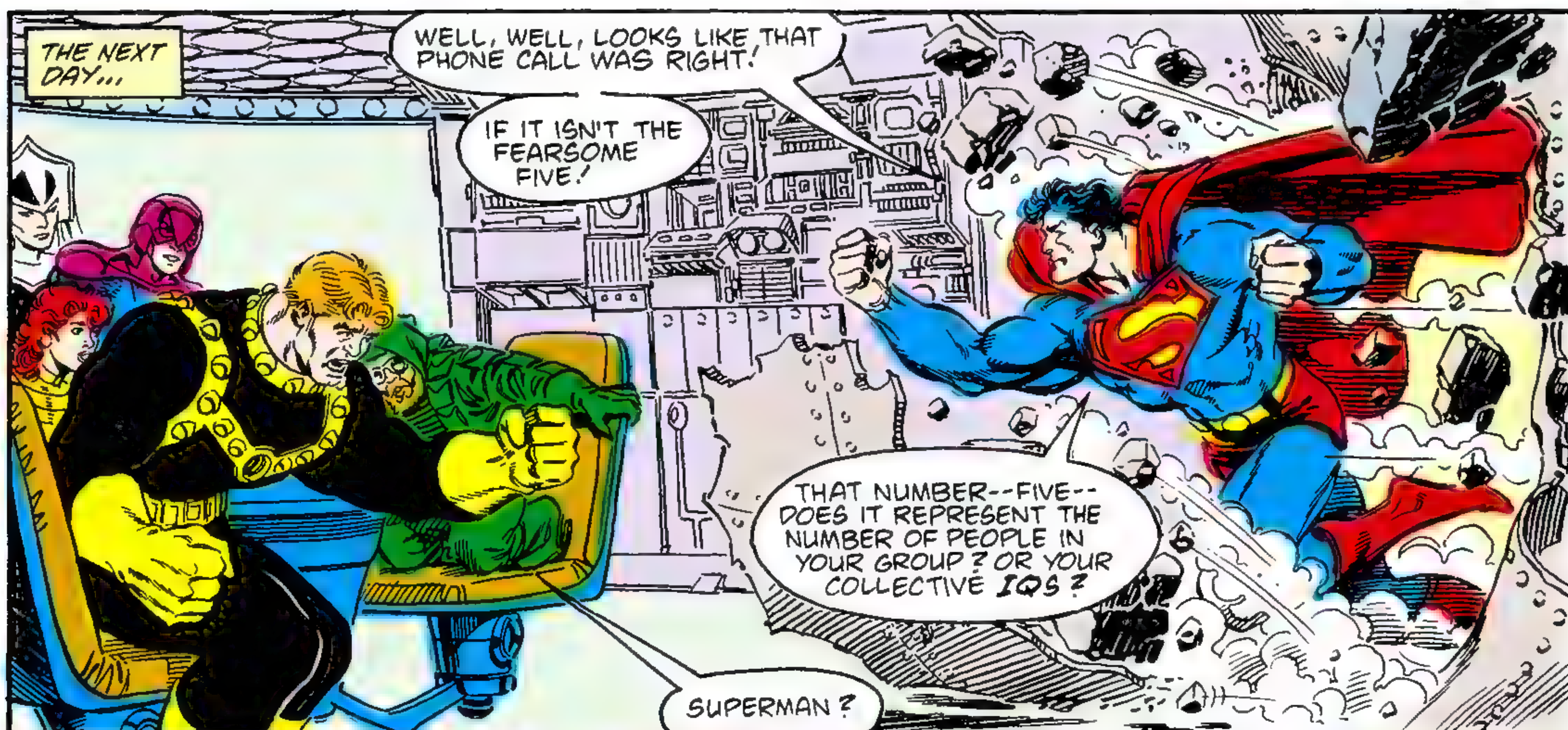


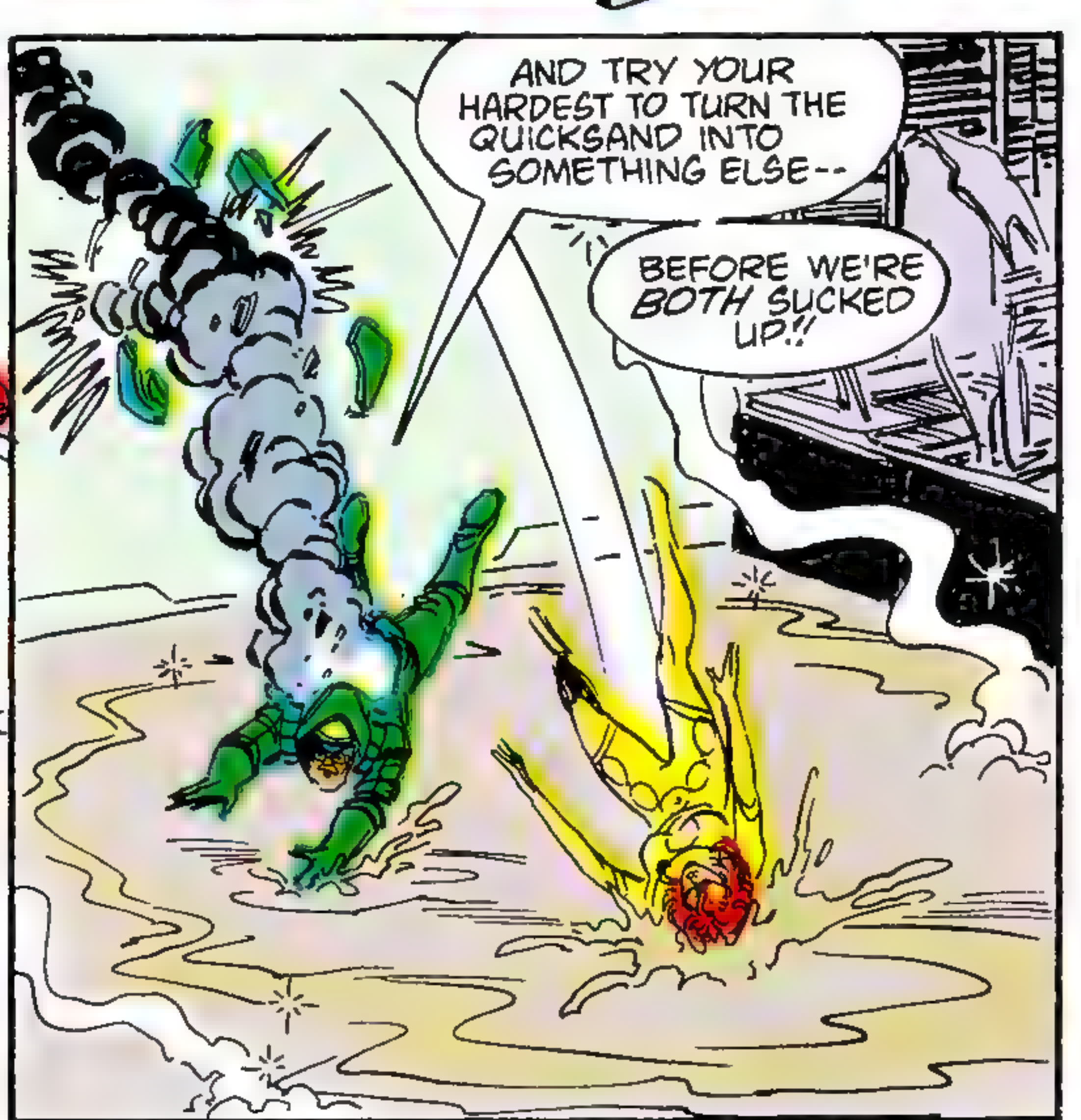
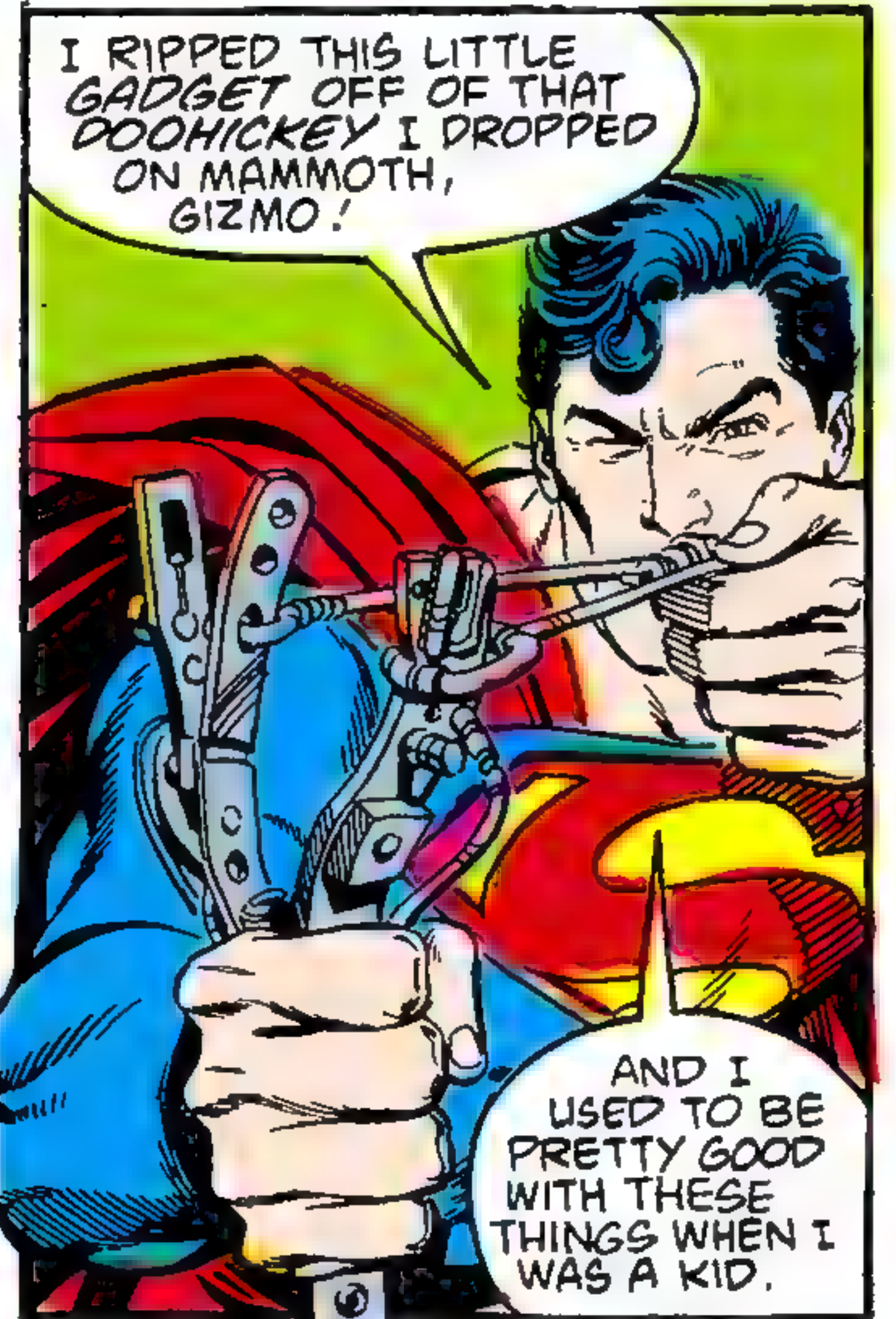
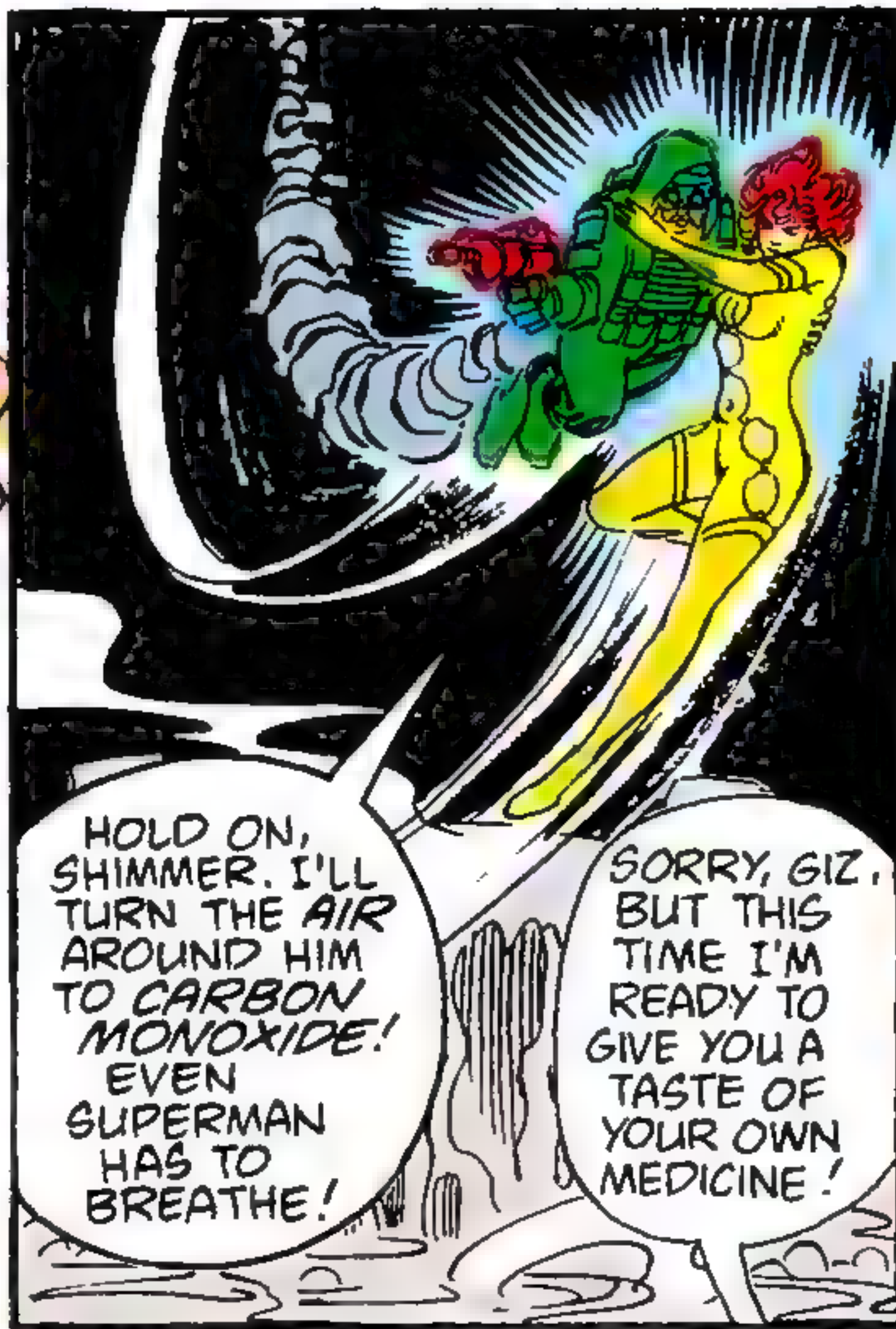
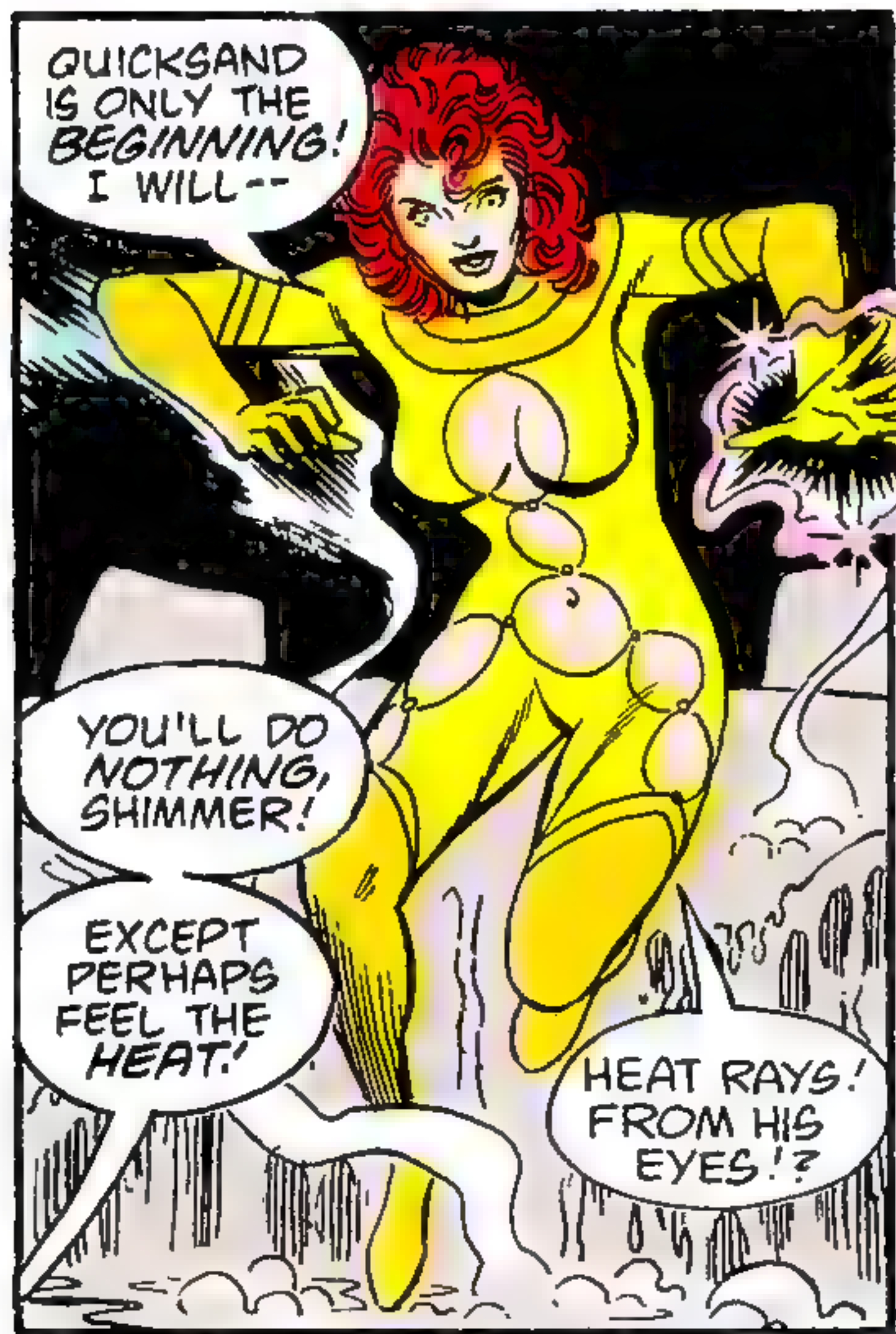
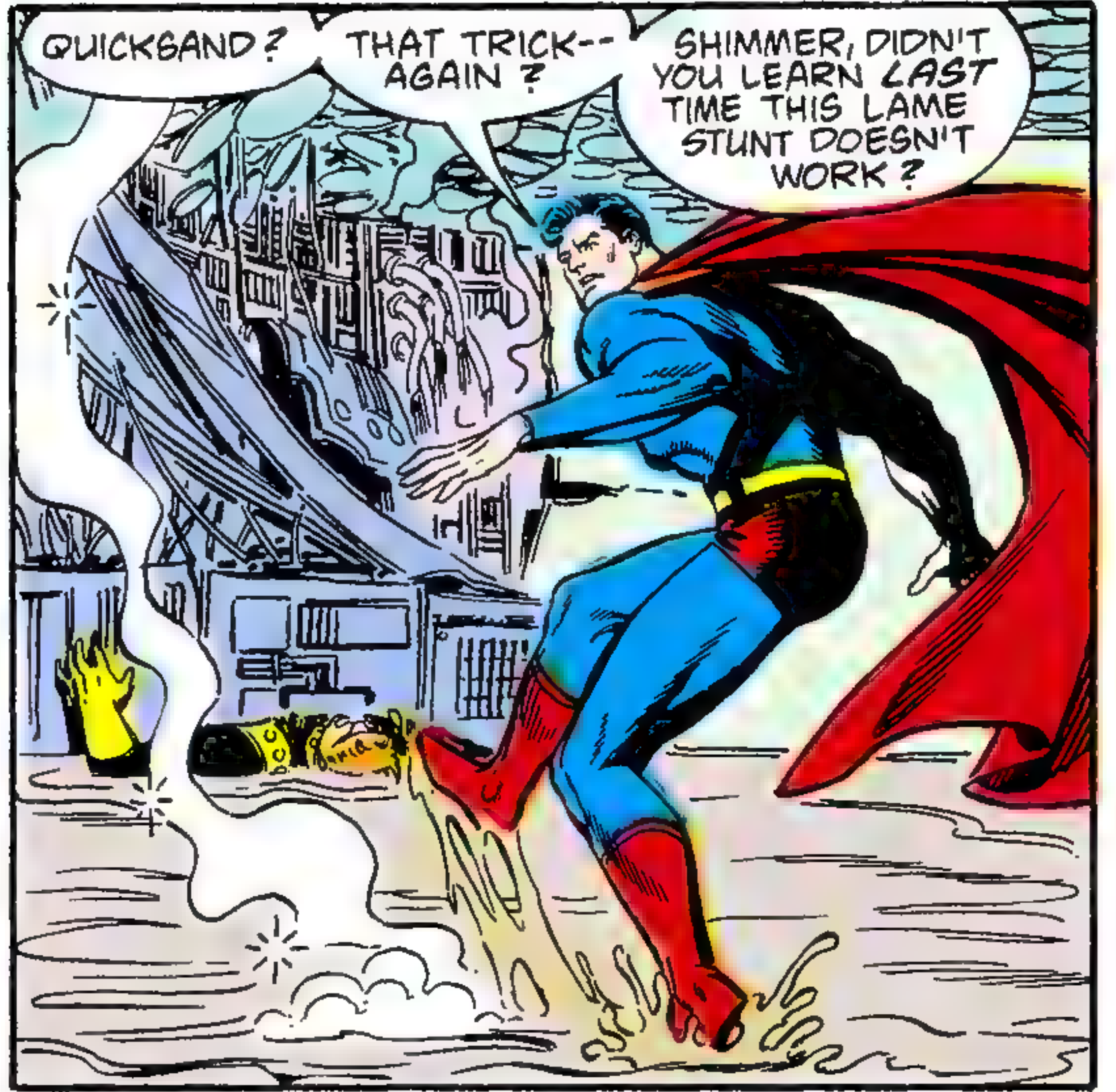
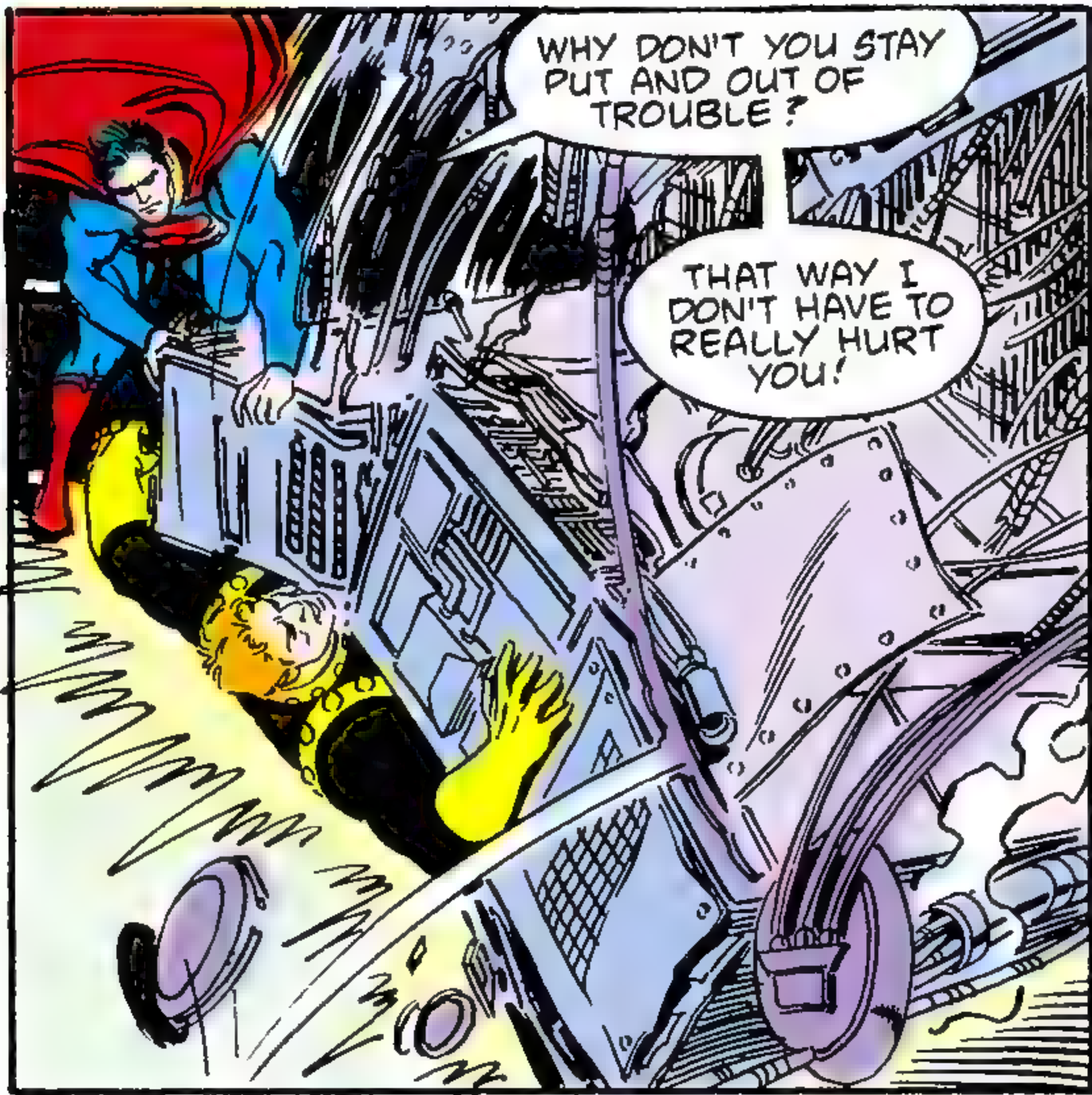








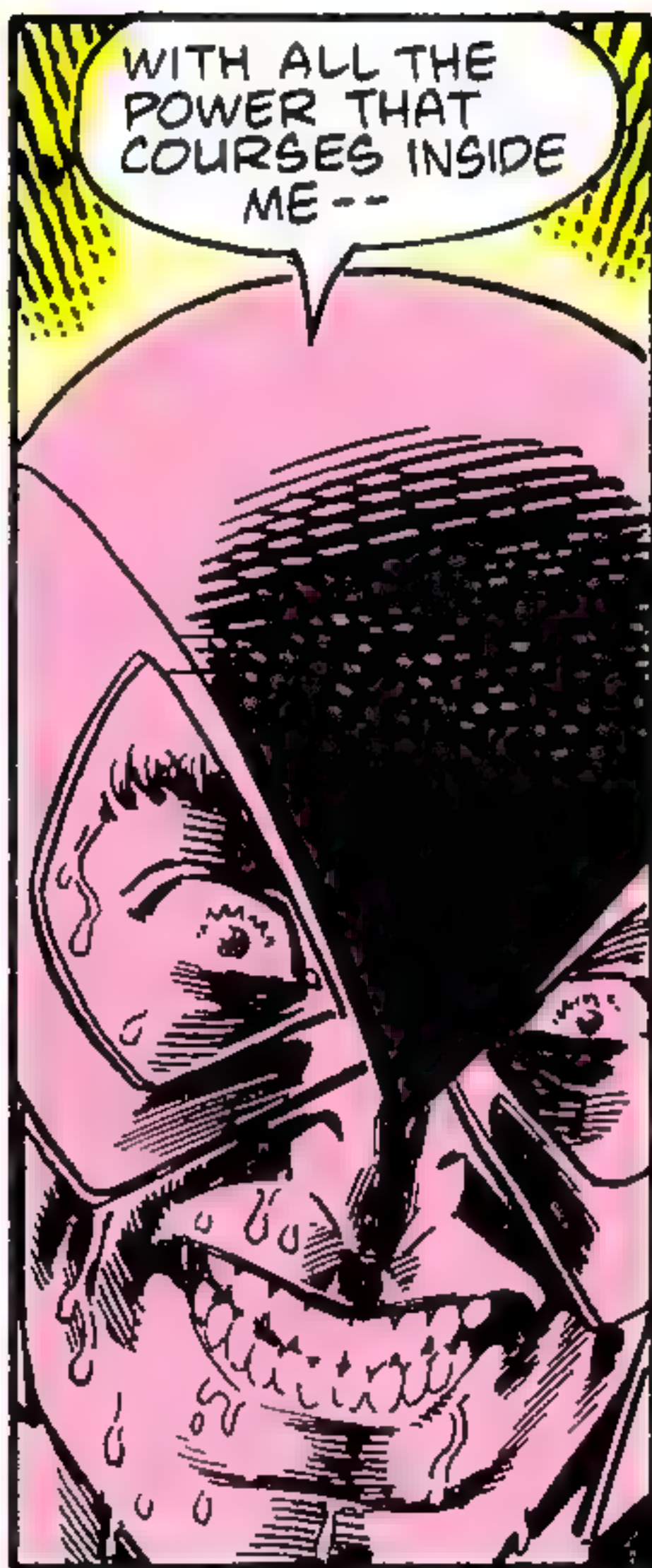




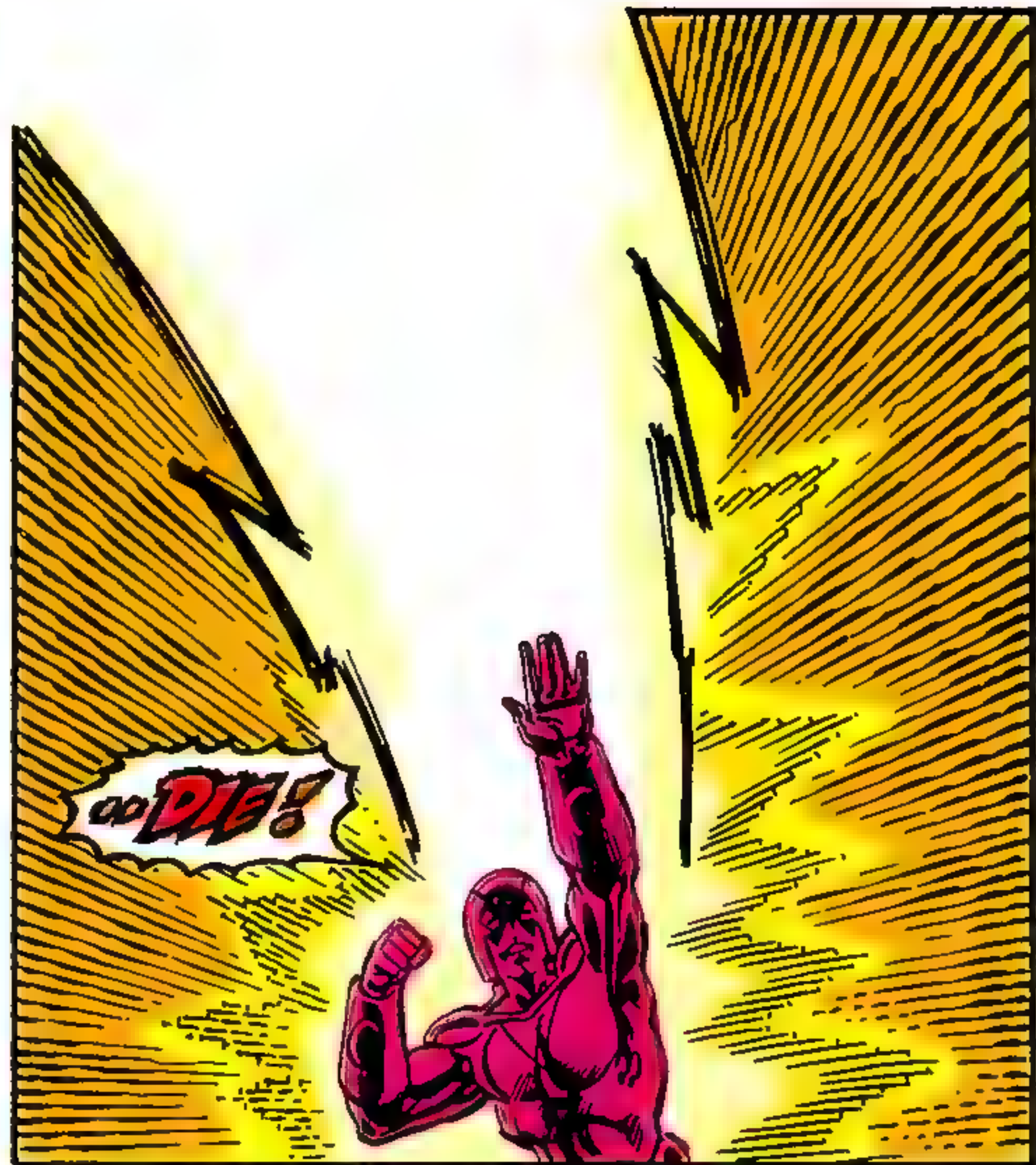


HE'S COMING AFTER ME NOW!
NO MORE GAMES! NO MORE
PRETENSE AT BEING PART OF
THIS INSIPID GROUP!

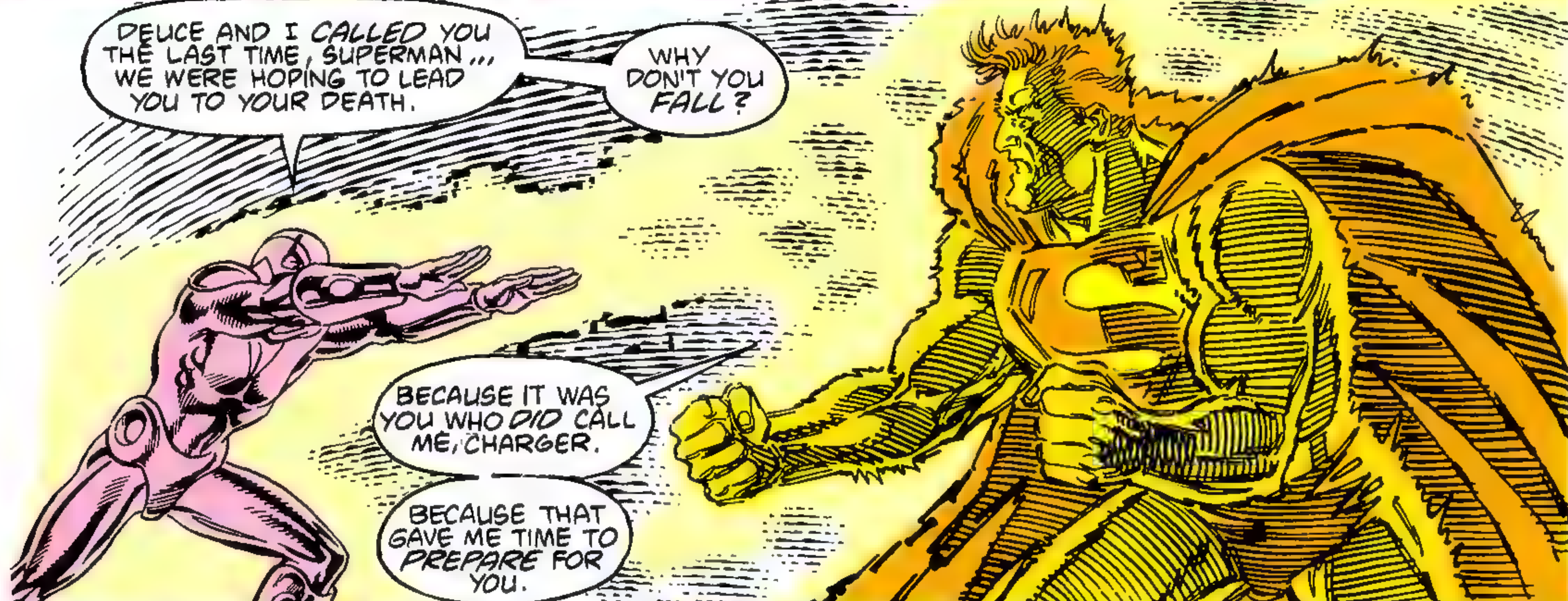
I CAN DESTROY
THE SUPERMAN!



WITH ALL THE
POWER THAT
COURSES INSIDE
ME--



DIE!

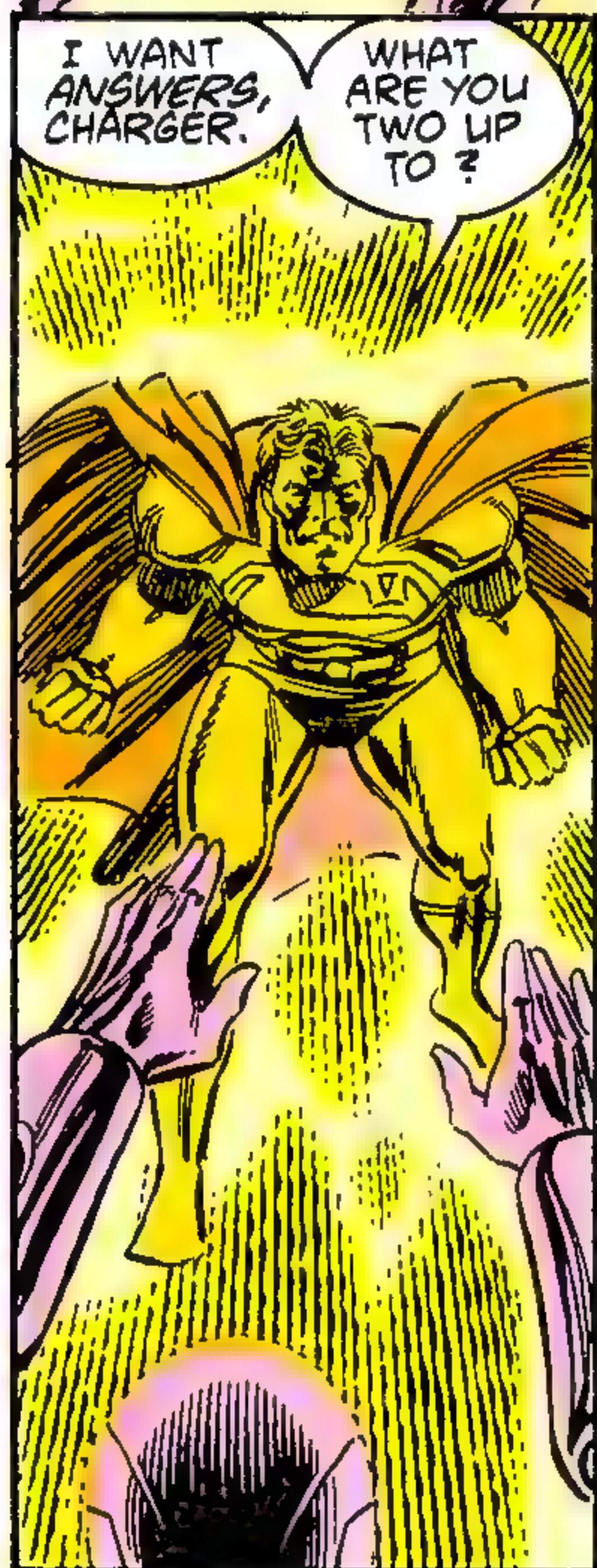


DEUCE AND I CALLED YOU
THE LAST TIME, SUPERMAN...
WE WERE HOPING TO LEAD
YOU TO YOUR DEATH.

WHY
DON'T YOU
FALL?

BECAUSE IT WAS
YOU WHO DID CALL
ME, CHARGER.

BECAUSE THAT
GAVE ME TIME TO
PREPARE FOR
YOU.

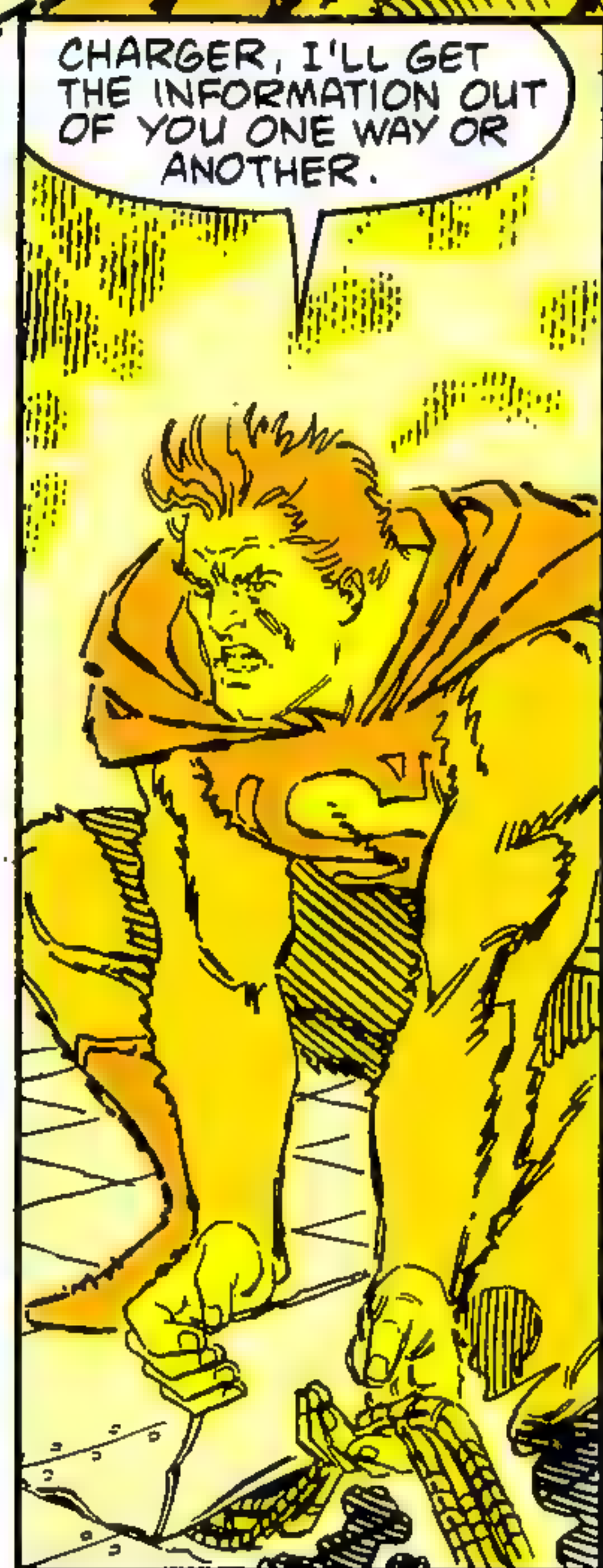


I WANT
ANSWERS,
CHARGER.

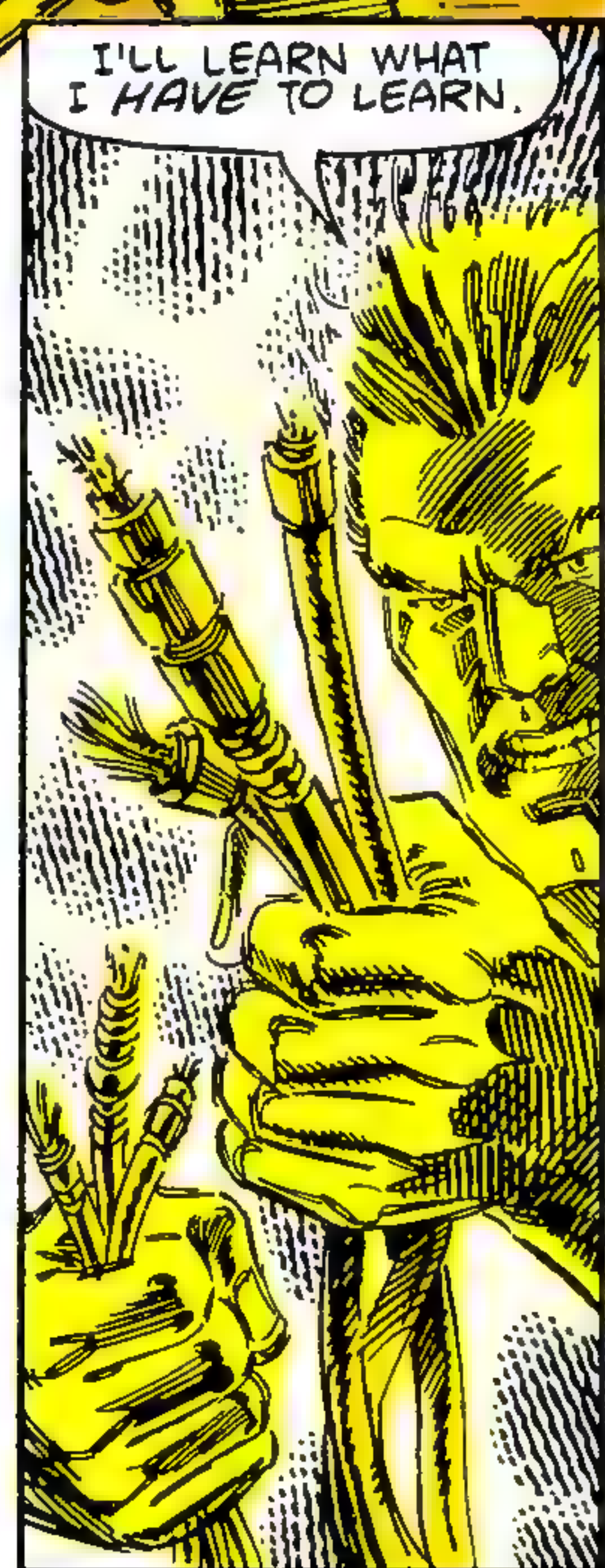
WHAT
ARE YOU
TWO UP
TO?



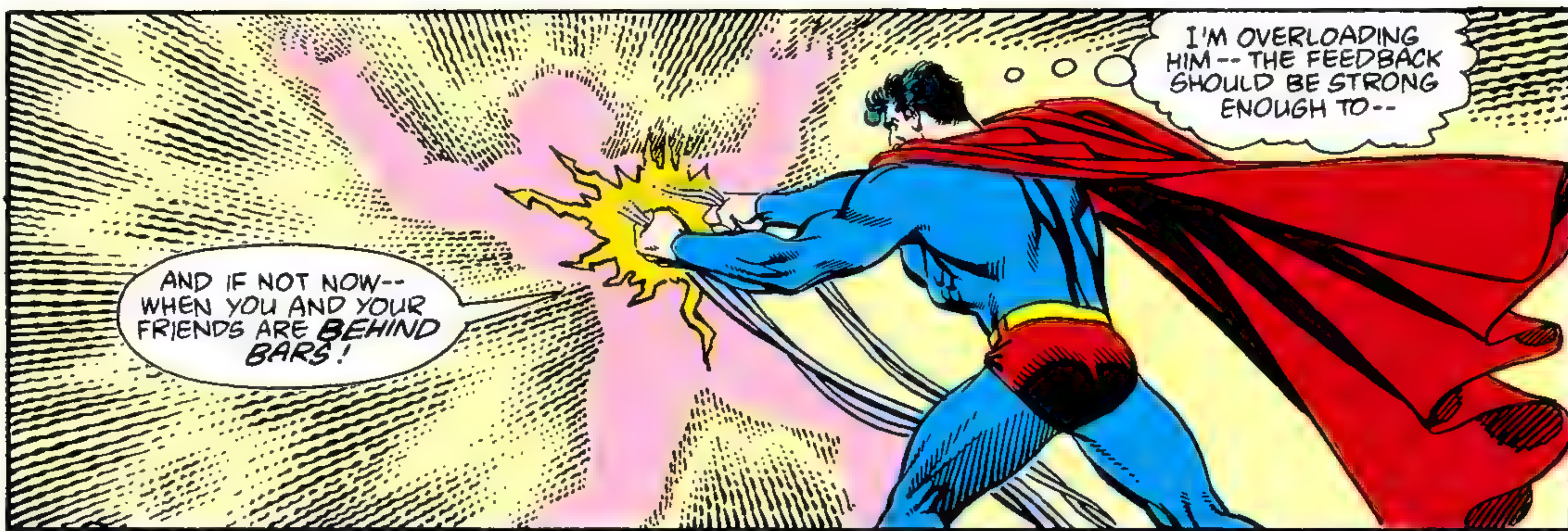
WHO DO YOU
REALLY WORK
FOR, CHARGER?



CHARGER, I'LL GET
THE INFORMATION OUT
OF YOU ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER.

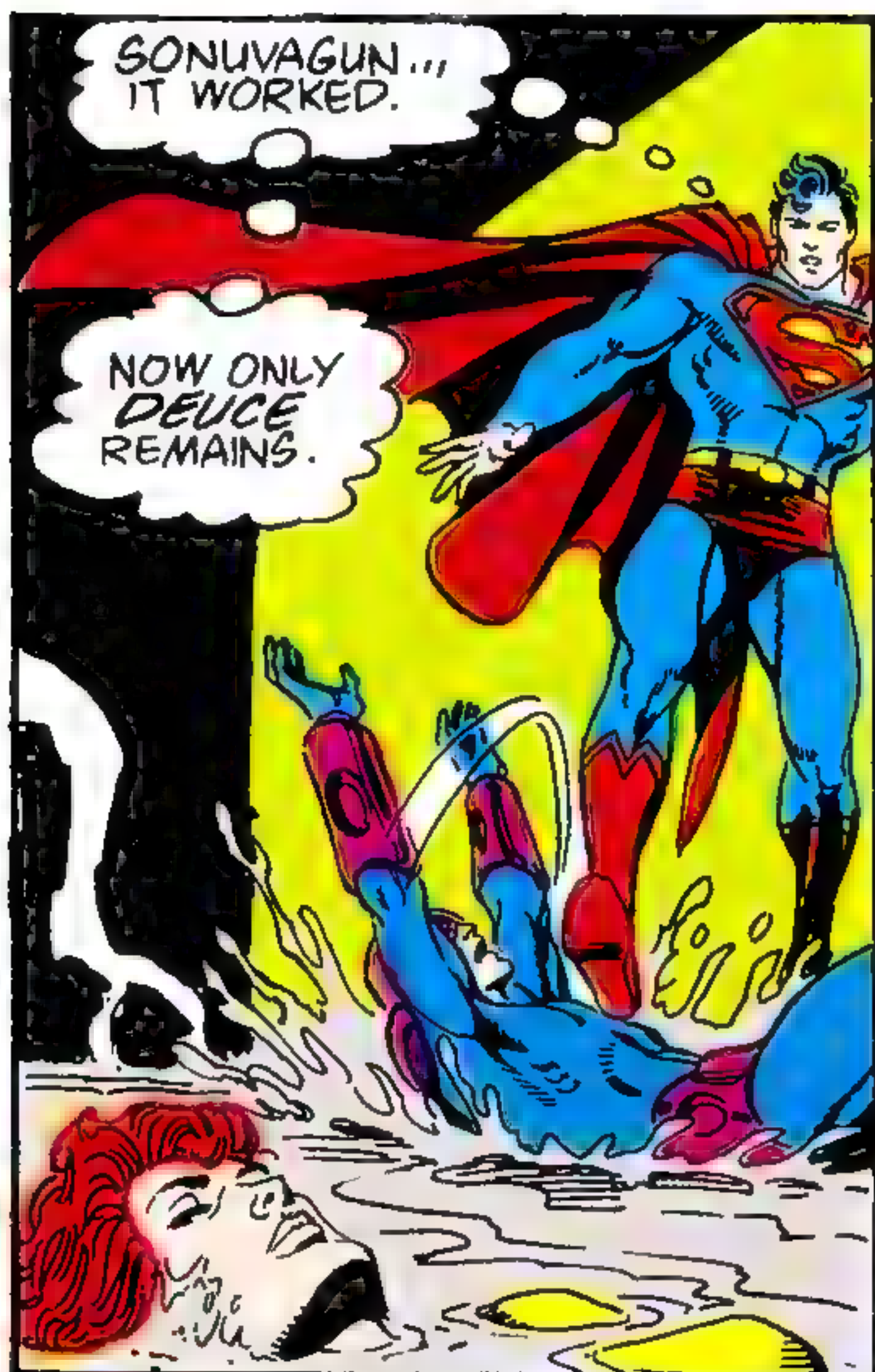


I'LL LEARN WHAT
I HAVE TO LEARN.



AND IF NOT NOW--
WHEN YOU AND YOUR
FRIENDS ARE **BEHIND**
BARS!

I'M OVERLOADING
HIM-- THE FEEDBACK
SHOULD BE STRONG
ENOUGH TO--



SONUVAGUN...
IT WORKED.

NOW ONLY
DEUCE
REMAINS.



NOT THAT OLD
TRICK AGAIN?

NO... NOT EVEN
REMOVEDLY THE SAME,
SUPERMAN.



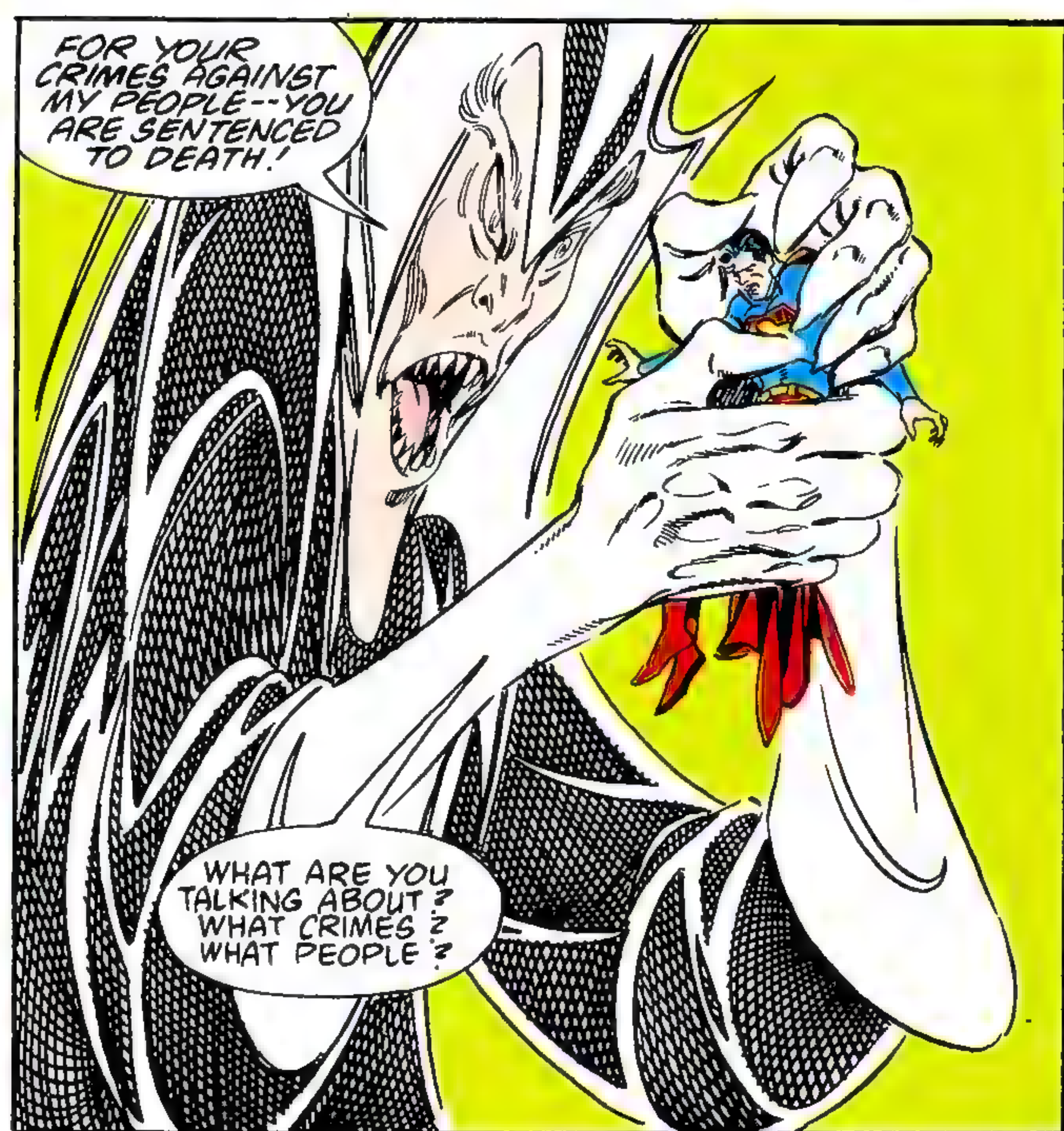
MY POWER IS
GREATER THAN YOU
IMAGINED--

WHATEVER
I THINK OF--
BECOMES
REALITY!



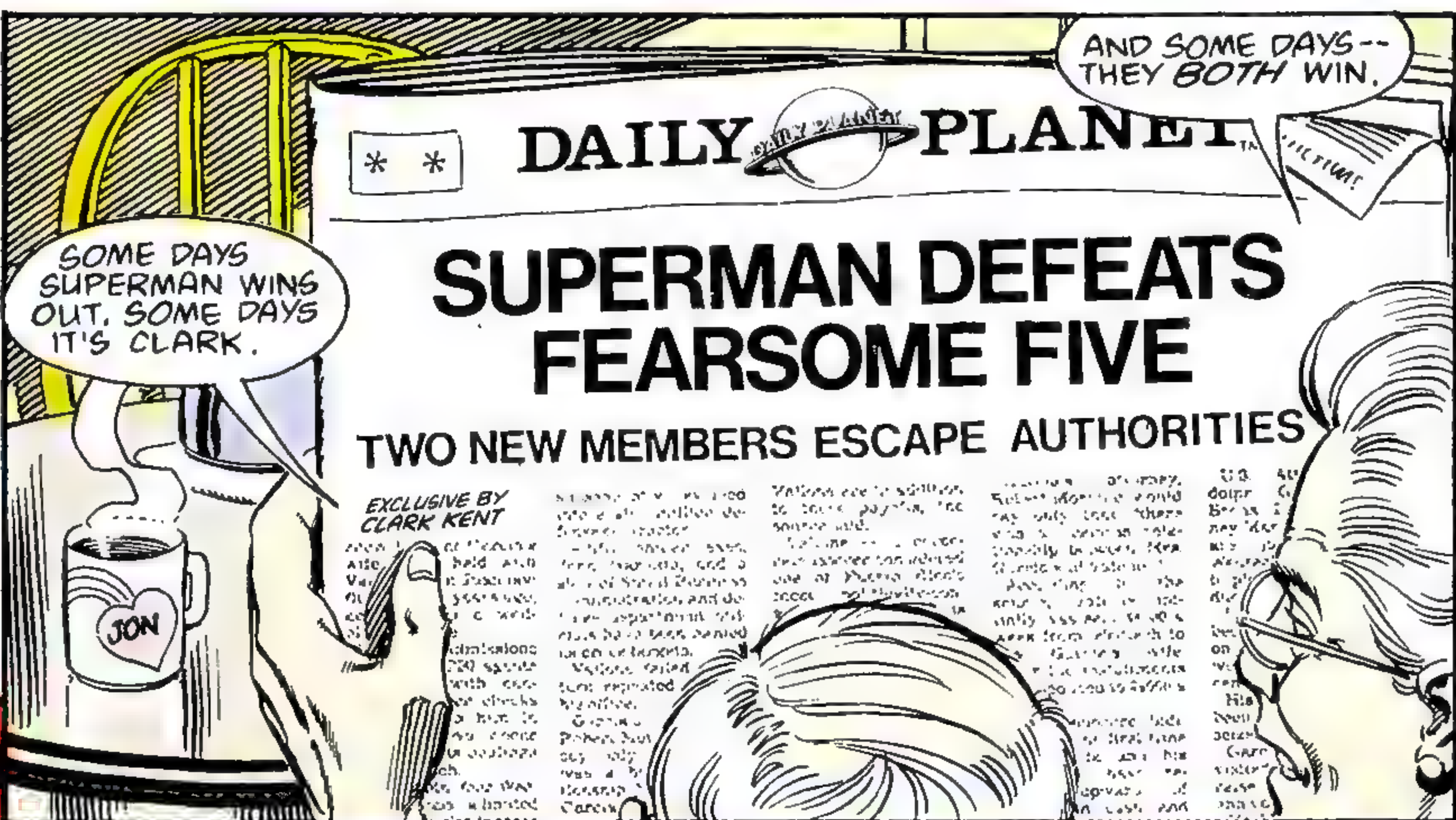
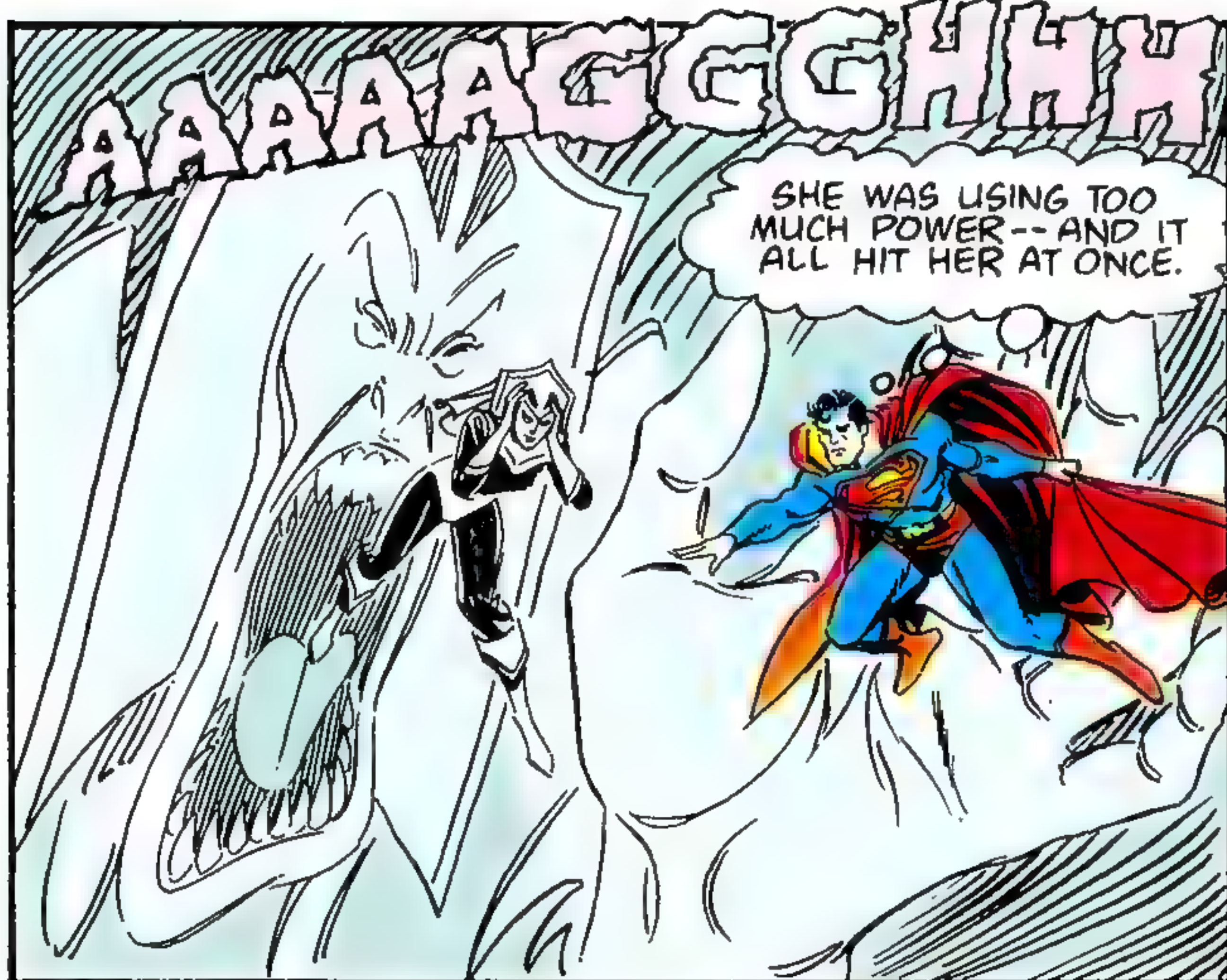
UNTIL NOW
I'VE HELD BACK...
LET THE OTHERS
TRY TO DESTROY
YOU.

BUT NOW
THERE IS NO
REASON TO
STAND BACK
AND WAIT.

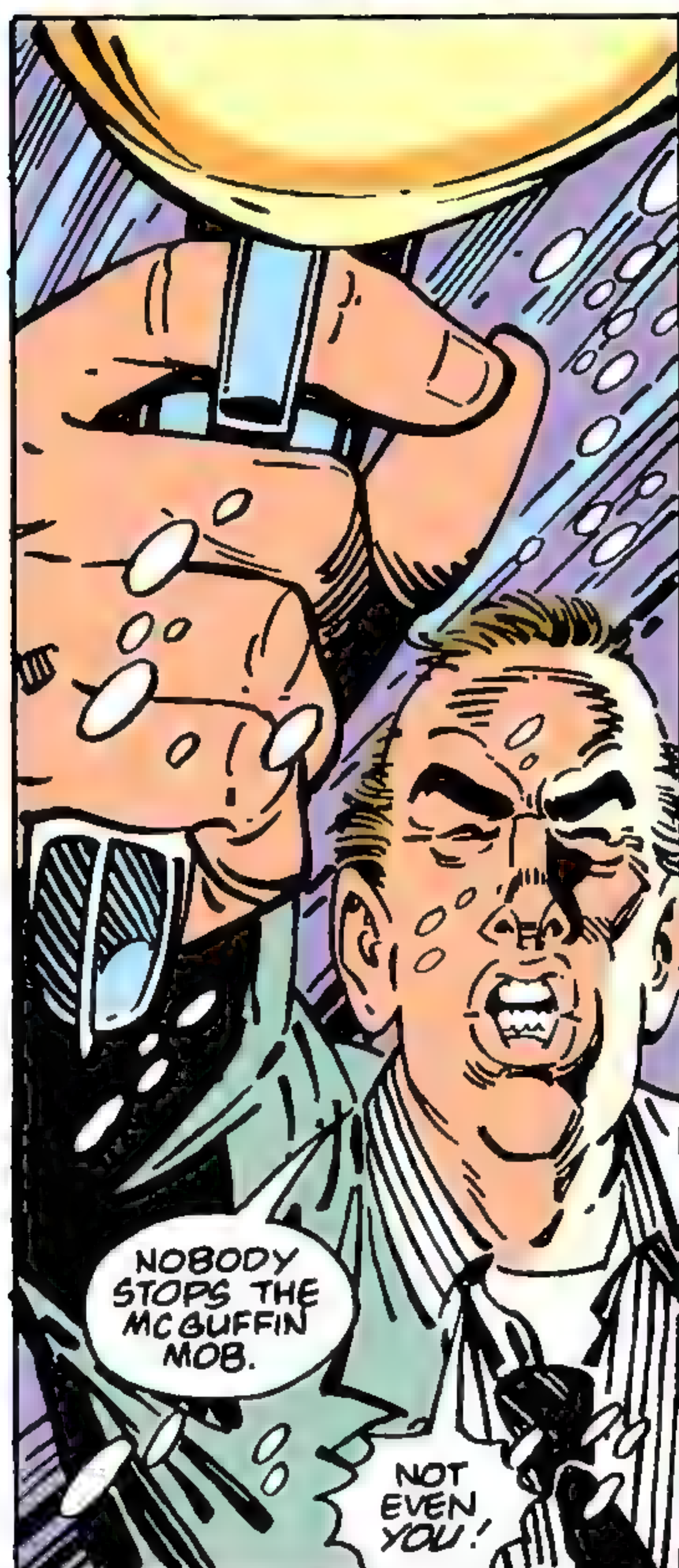
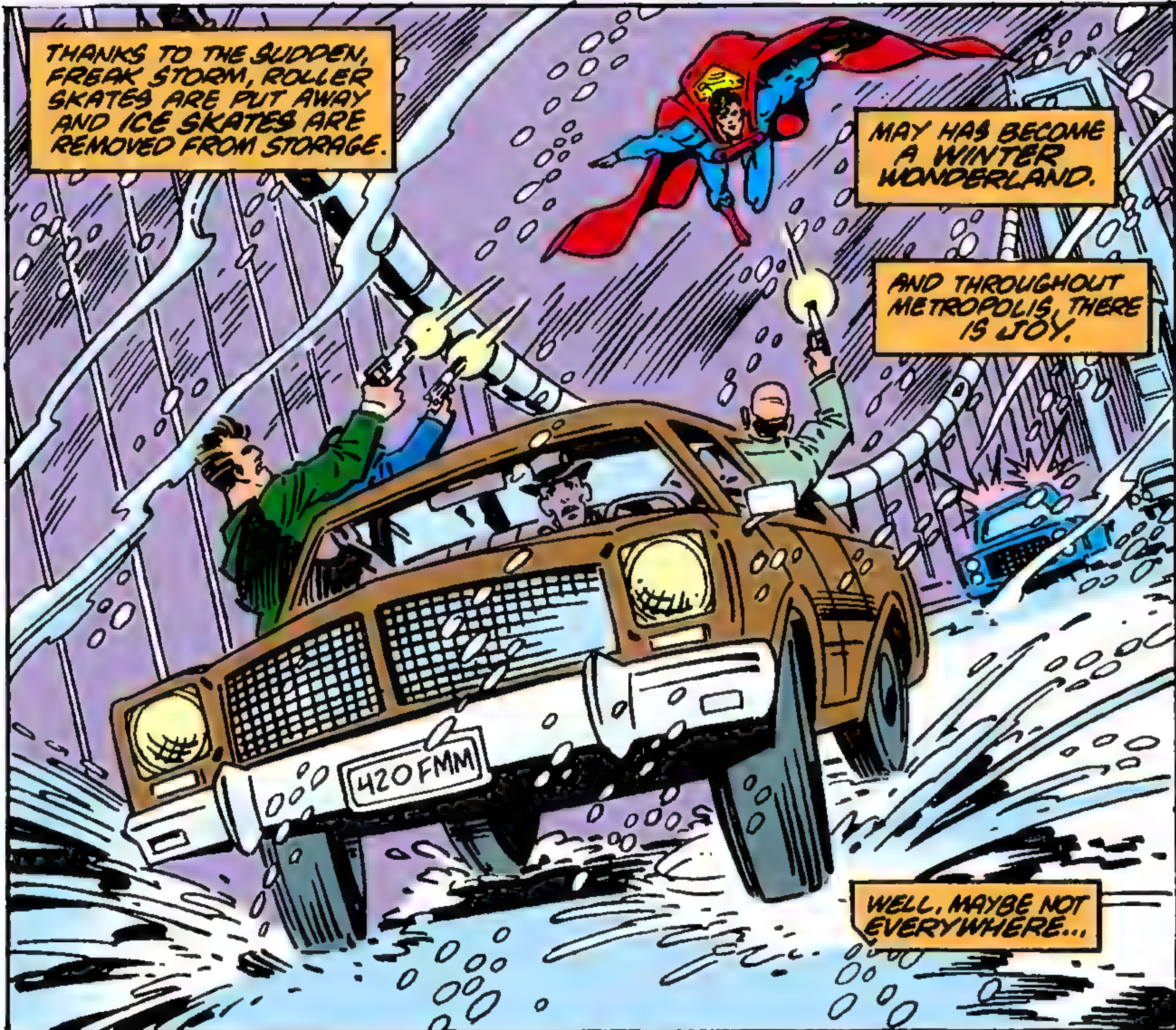


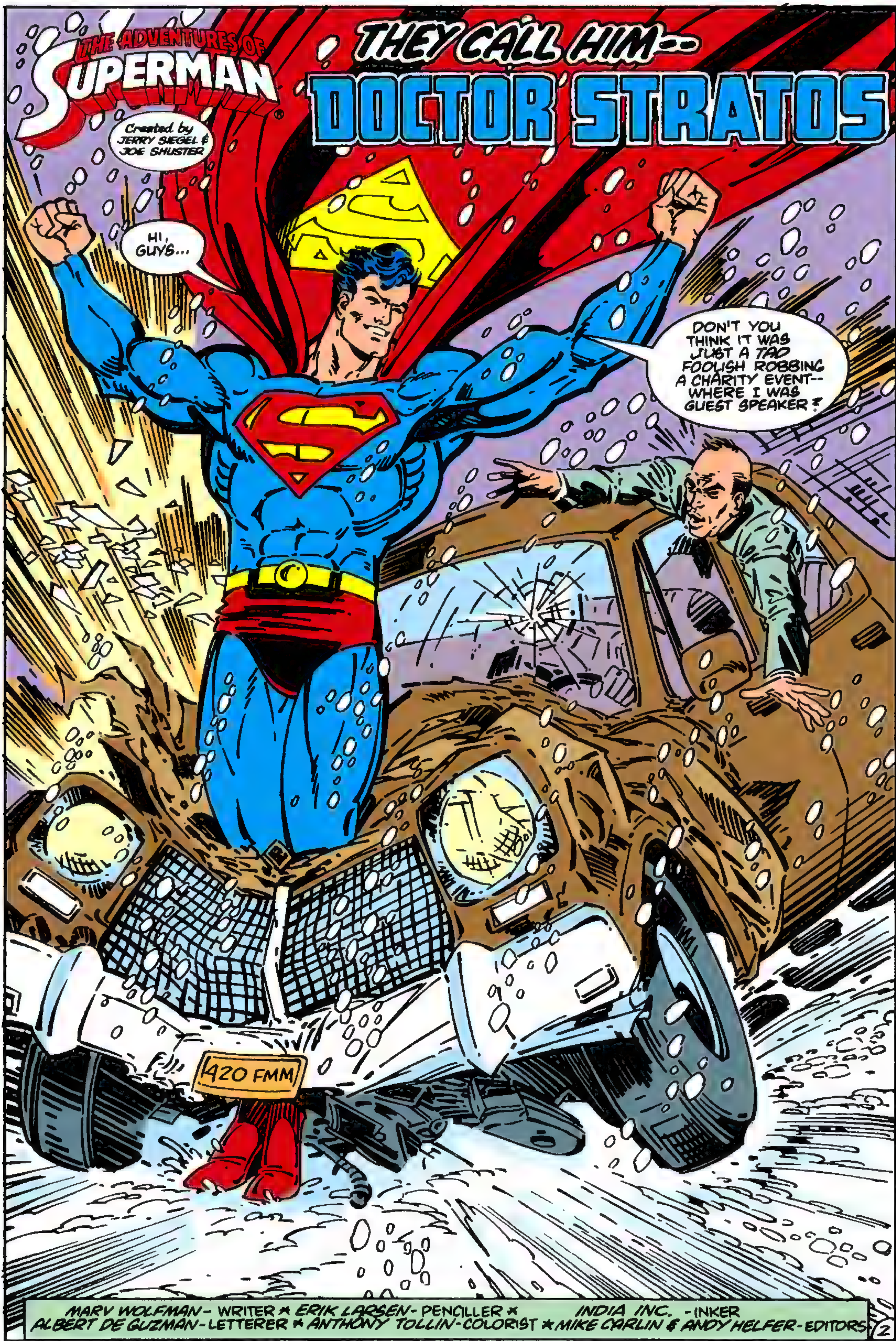
FOR YOUR
CRIMES AGAINST
MY PEOPLE-- YOU
ARE SENTENCED
TO DEATH!

WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT CRIMES?
WHAT PEOPLE?



NEXT ISSUE: **THE EVIL OF DOCTOR STRATOS!**





MARV WOLFGMAN - WRITER * ERIK LARSEN - PENCILLER * INDIA INC. - INKER
ALBERT DE GUZMAN - LETTERER * ANTHONY TOLLIN - COLORIST * MIKE CARLIN & ANDY HELFER - EDITORS

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO LEN WEIN



NOW THEN, YOU CAN FREEZE TO DEATH IN THIS SNOWSTORM OR WARM UP COZILY BEHIND BARS.

WHICH WILL IT BE?

UNCLE!

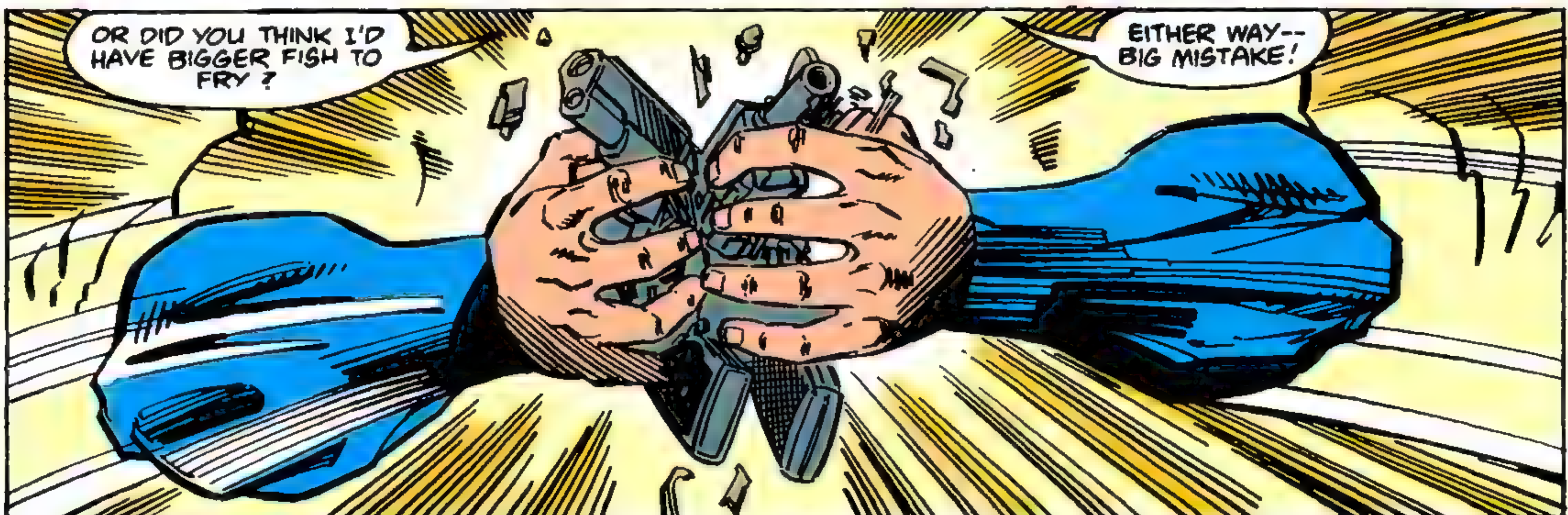
SMART MAN!



WHERE ARE YOU BOYS FROM?

G-GOTHAM CITY. WE WERE TRYIN' TO GET AWAY FROM THE BATMAN!

SO YOU CAME TO METROPOLIS. AND NOBODY WARNED YOU ABOUT ME?



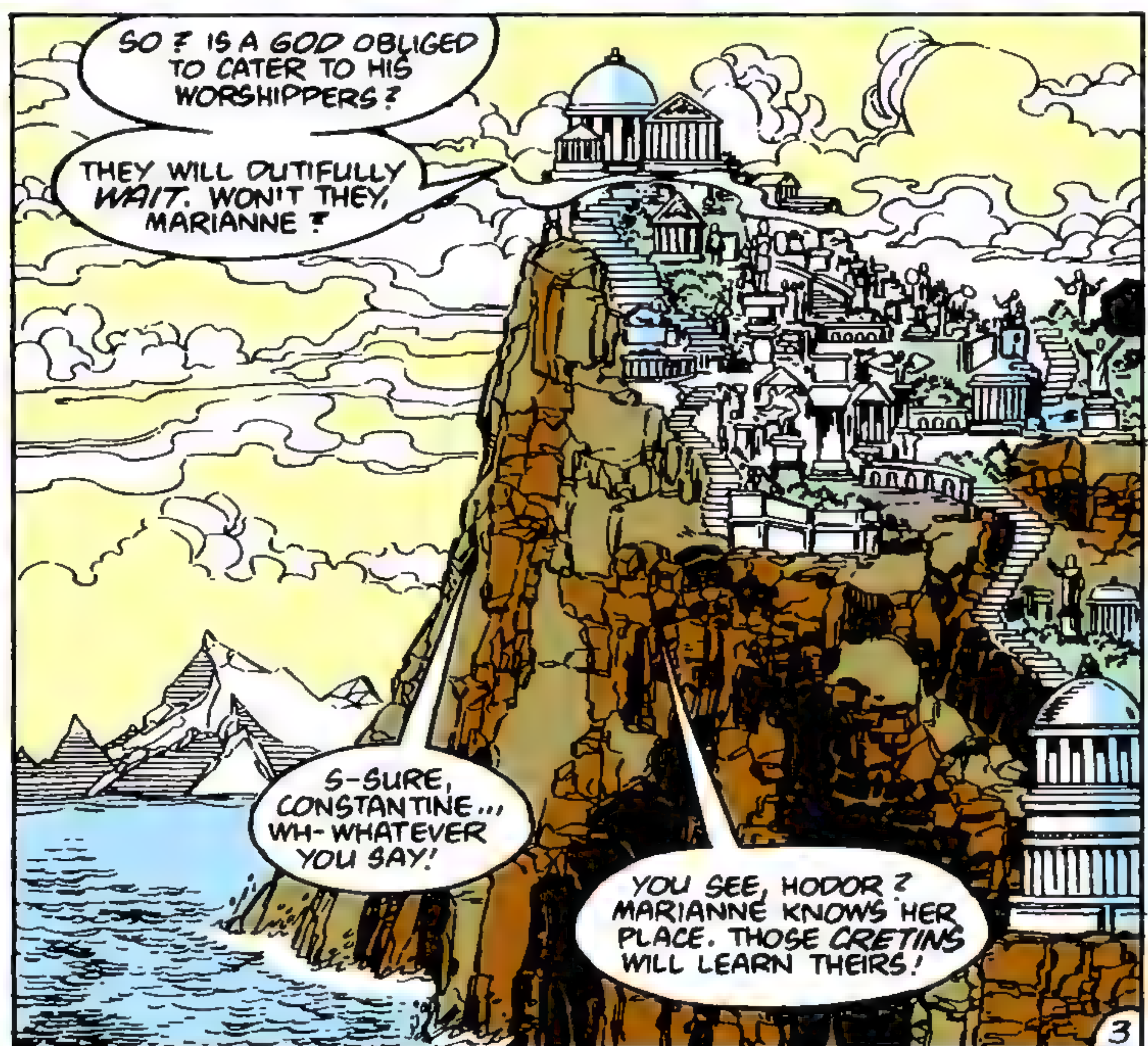
OR DID YOU THINK I'D HAVE BIGGER FISH TO FRY?

EITHER WAY-- BIG MISTAKE!



ONE YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO THINK ABOUT FOR THE NEXT TEN TO TWENTY YEARS.

"DOCTOR STRATOS, EVERYONE IS WAITING FOR YOU TO ADDRESS THEM."

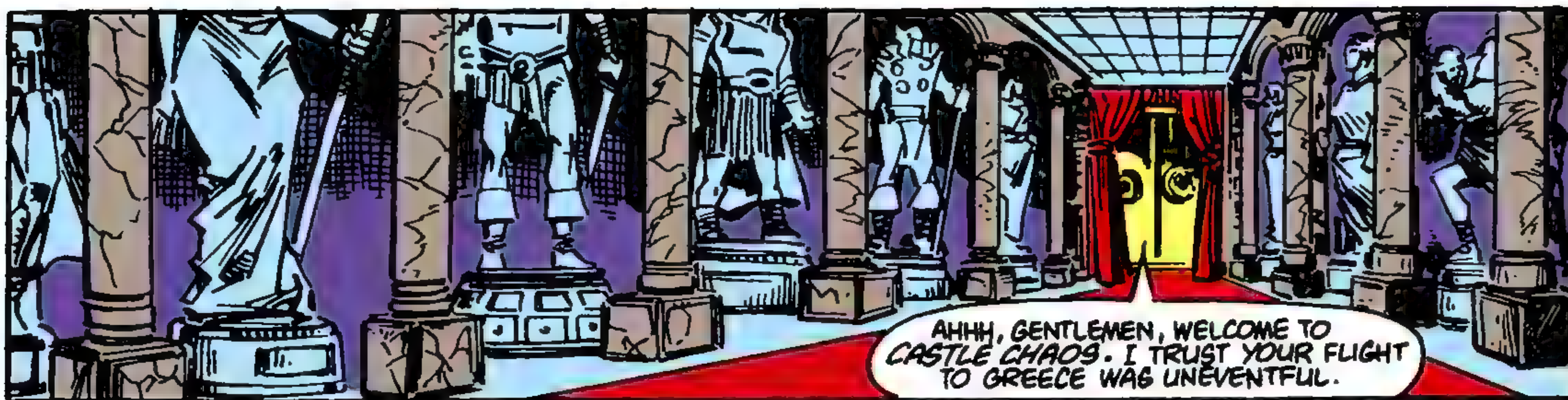


SO ? IS A GOD OBLIGED TO CATER TO HIS WORSHIPPERS?

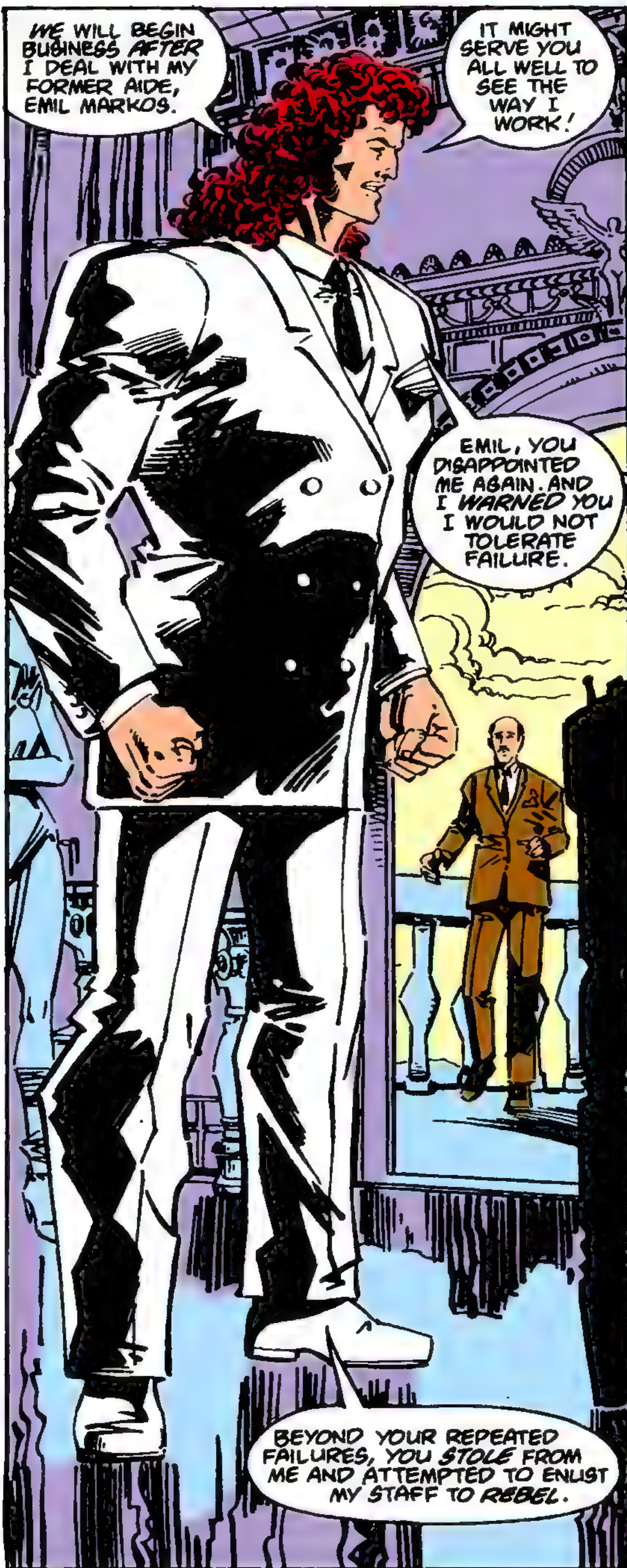
THEY WILL OUTFULLY WAIT. WON'T THEY, MARIANNE ?

S-SURE, CONSTANTINE... WH-WHATEVER YOU SAY!

YOU SEE, HODOR ? MARIANNE KNOWS HER PLACE. THOSE CRETINS WILL LEARN THEIRS!



AHHH, GENTLEMEN, WELCOME TO CASTLE CHAOS. I TRUST YOUR FLIGHT TO GREECE WAS UNEVENTFUL.



WE WILL BEGIN BUSINESS AFTER I DEAL WITH MY FORMER AIDE, EMIL MARKOS.

IT MIGHT SERVE YOU ALL WELL TO SEE THE WAY I WORK!

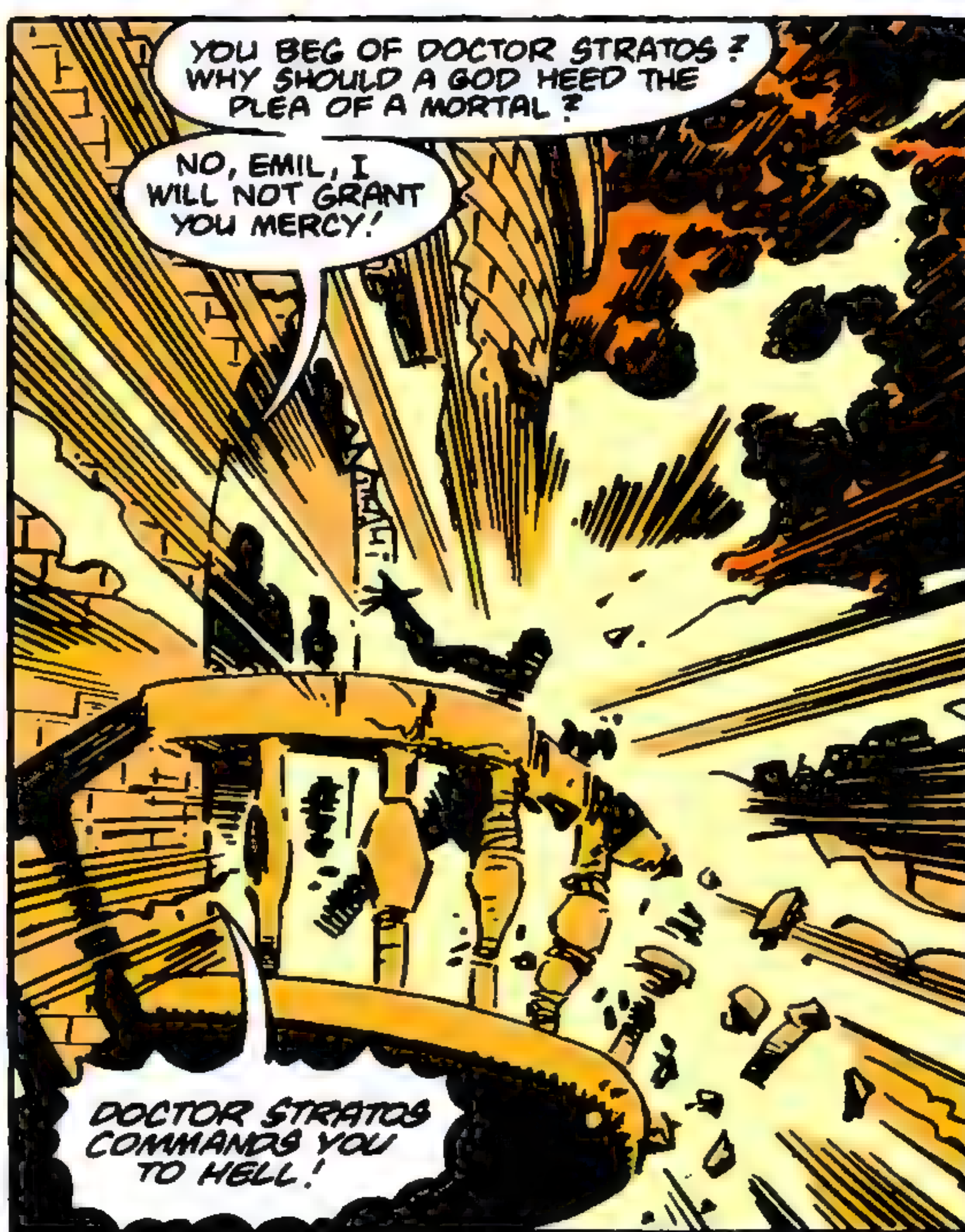
EMIL, YOU DISAPPOINTED ME AGAIN. AND I WARNED YOU I WOULD NOT TOLERATE FAILURE.

BEYOND YOUR REPEATED FAILURES, YOU STOLE FROM ME AND ATTEMPTED TO ENLIST MY STAFF TO REBEL.



D... DOCTOR, I WILL REPENT... I WAS LED ASTRAY...

PLEASE... I AM SORRY. I BEG YOU, DOCTOR STRATOS—GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE.



YOU BEG OF DOCTOR STRATOS? WHY SHOULD A GOD HEED THE PLEA OF A MORTAL?

NO, EMIL, I WILL NOT GRANT YOU MERCY!

DOCTOR STRATOS COMMANDS YOU TO HELL!



AND NOW, MY GOOD FRIENDS, LET US TO BUSINESS.



I WAS FOUND--
A WAIF ABANDONED
AT THE BASE OF
MOUNT OLYMPUS--
MY PARENTS
UNKNOWN TO
ALL SAVE ME.

FOR I AM A CHILD OF THE
GODS--GRANTED COMMAND OVER
THE FORCES OF WEATHER
ITSELF.

WHEN I ASCEND TO THE HEAVENS
THAT POWER WILL BECOME ME. THAT
HAS BEEN DECREED, FOR MY DESTINY
HAS BEEN ENSCRIBED IN THE
STARS!



AND YOU, MY MORTAL FRIENDS, NOW HAVE
THE PLEASURE TO SERVE ME.

WELL, WHY DO
YOU STAND THERE?
DO AS YOU HAVE
BEEN COMMANDED!

ALL SAVE YOU,
MELINDA. YOU WILL
SERVE ME...
TONIGHT.

I... YES,
CONSTANTINE...
OF COURSE, DOCTOR
STRATOS. OF
COURSE.



DO YOU FEEL IT IN
THE WIND, MELINDA?
THE GLORY THAT
WILL BE MINE?

I REVEL IN
MY IMPENDING
SUCCESS.

SO DO I,
CONSTANTINE...
I PRAY FOR
YOU...

...TO DIE, YOU MADMAN.
YOU'VE HUMILIATED ME FOR
THE LAST TIME.



GO AHEAD,
CONSTANTINE--
SLEEP.

JUST A
MOMENT
LONGER.

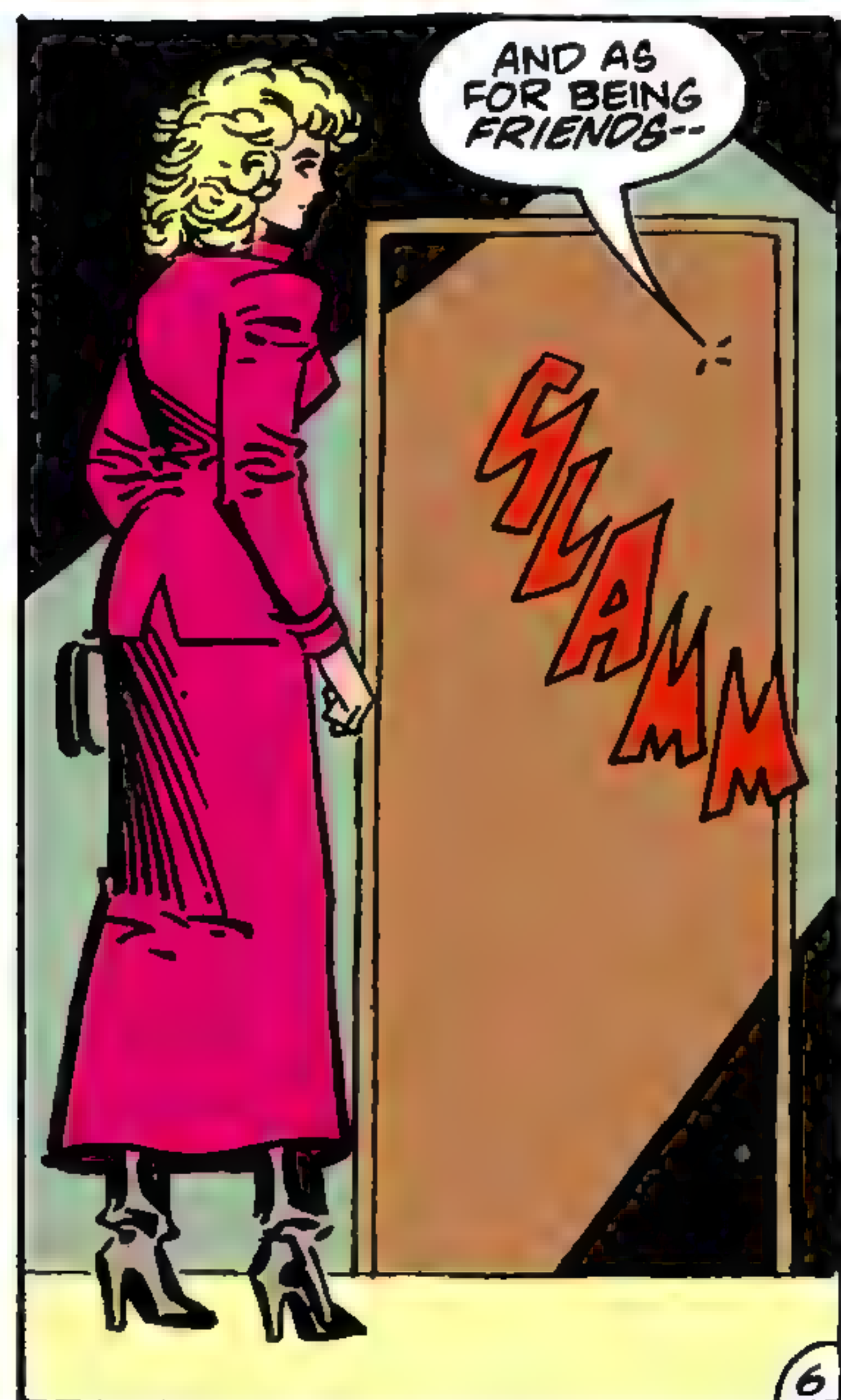
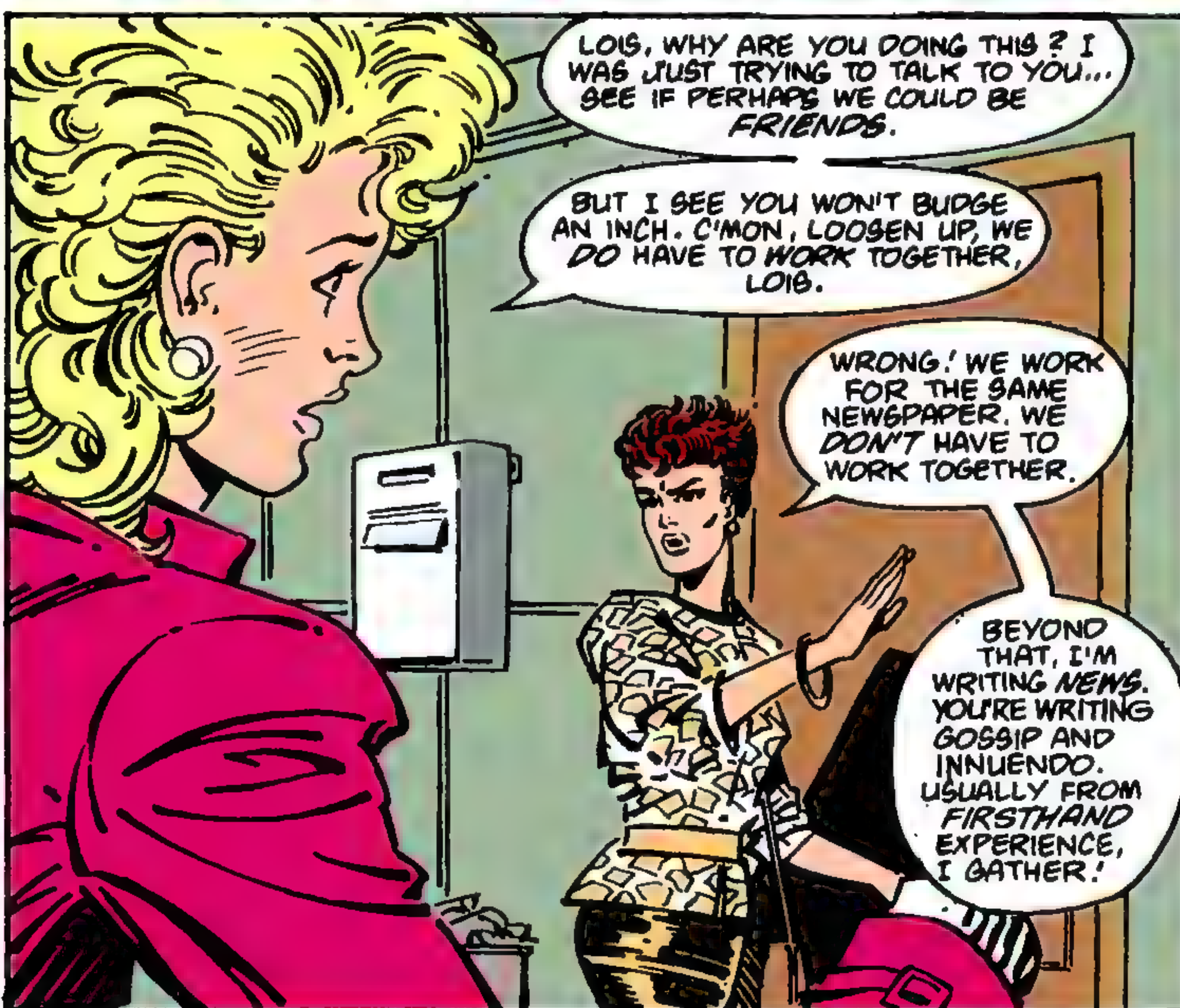
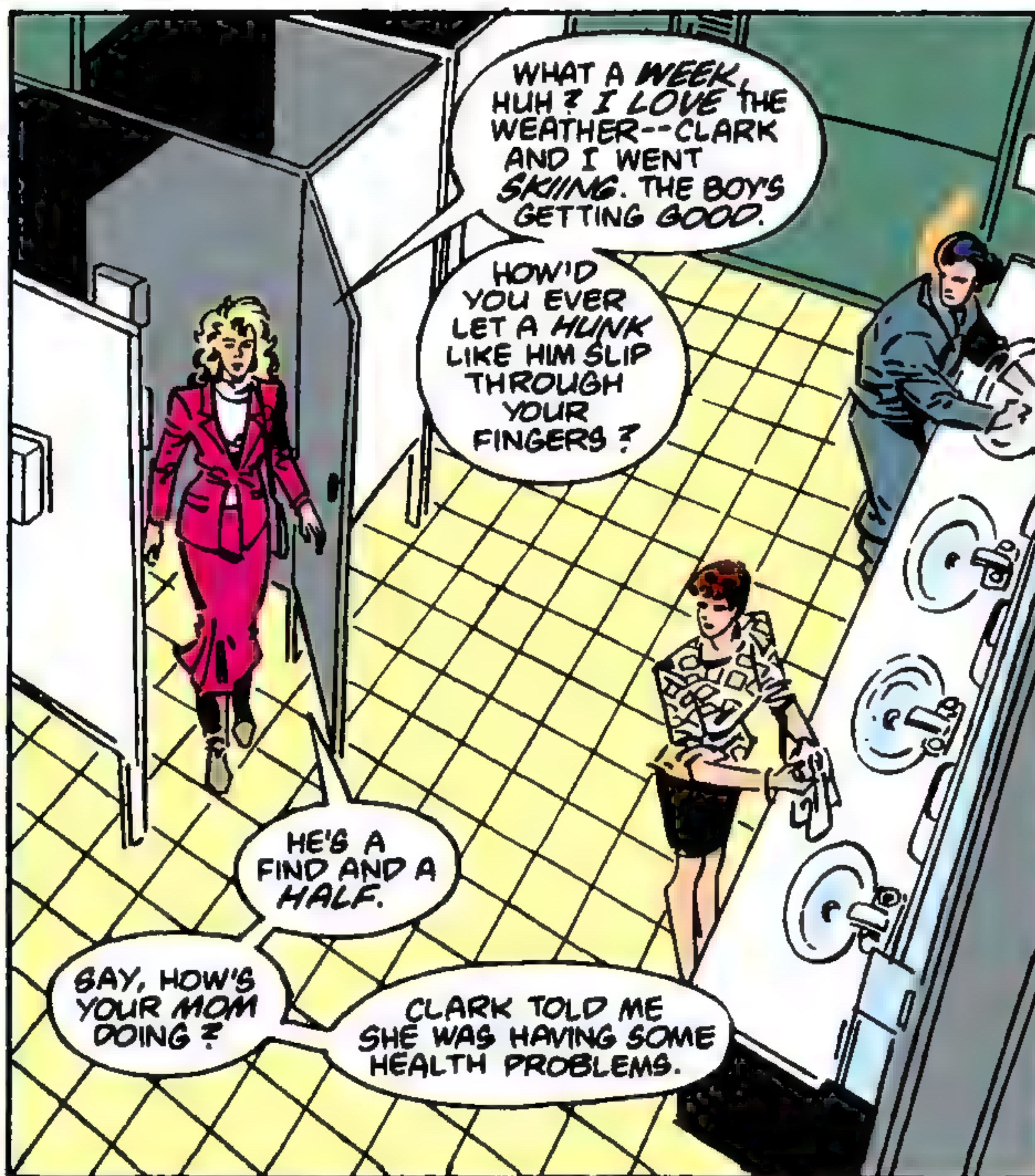


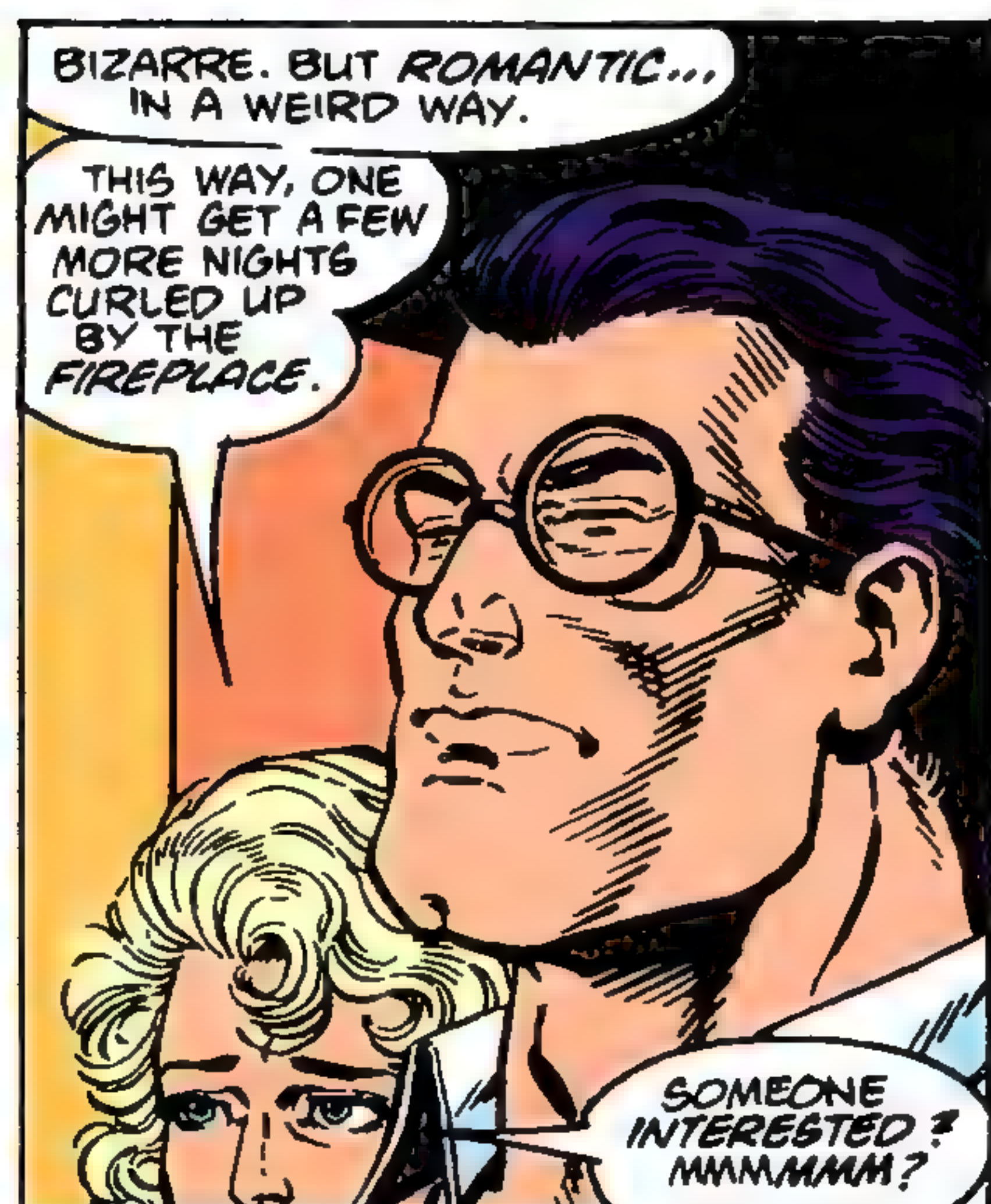
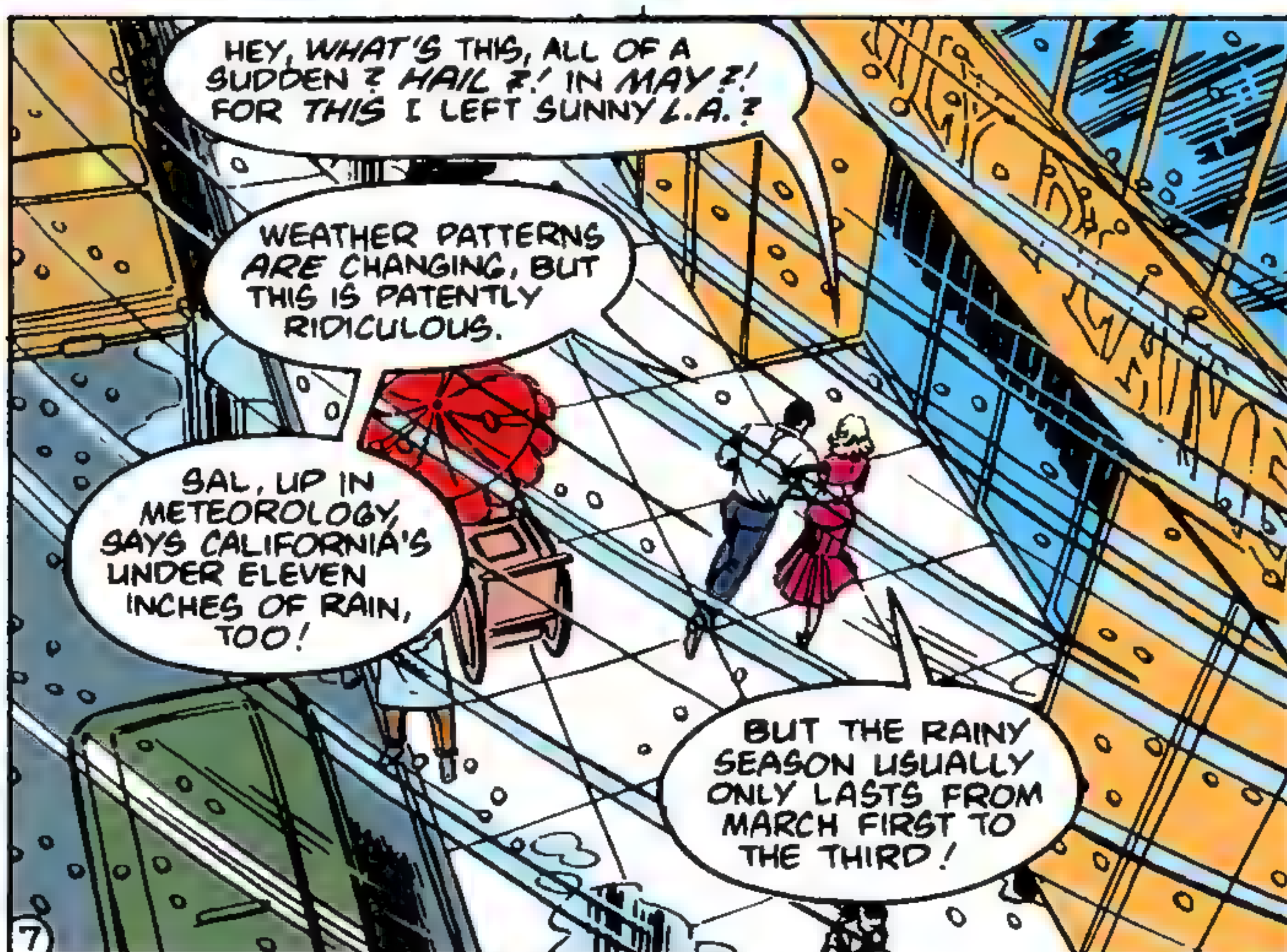
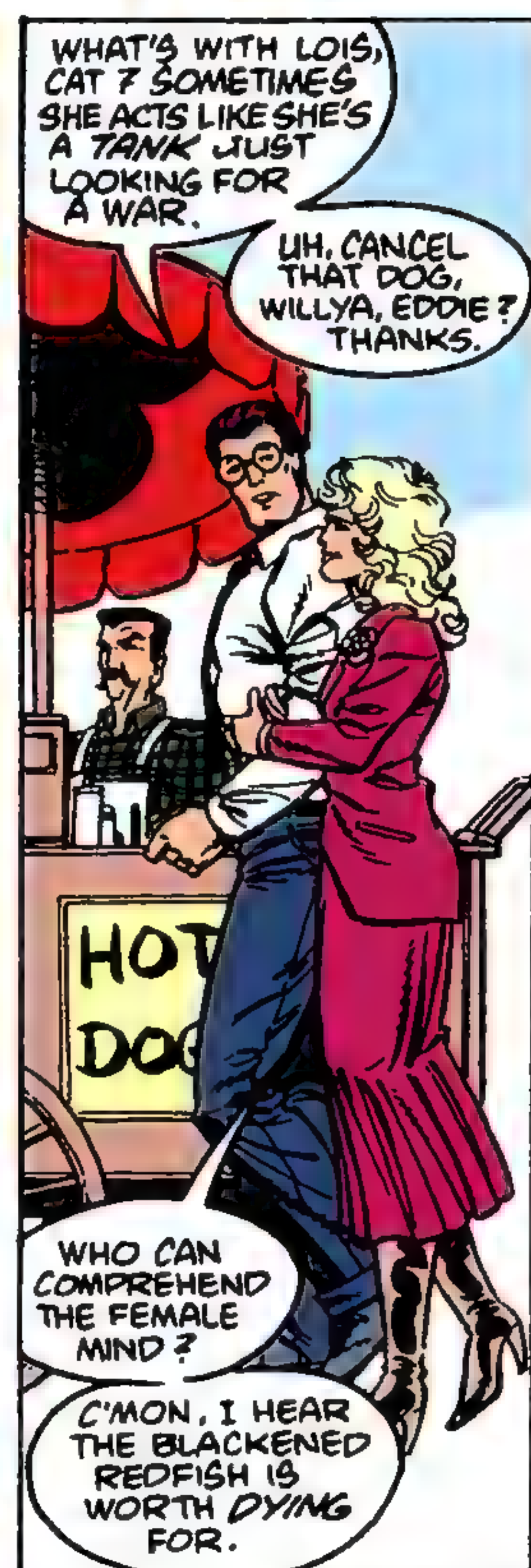
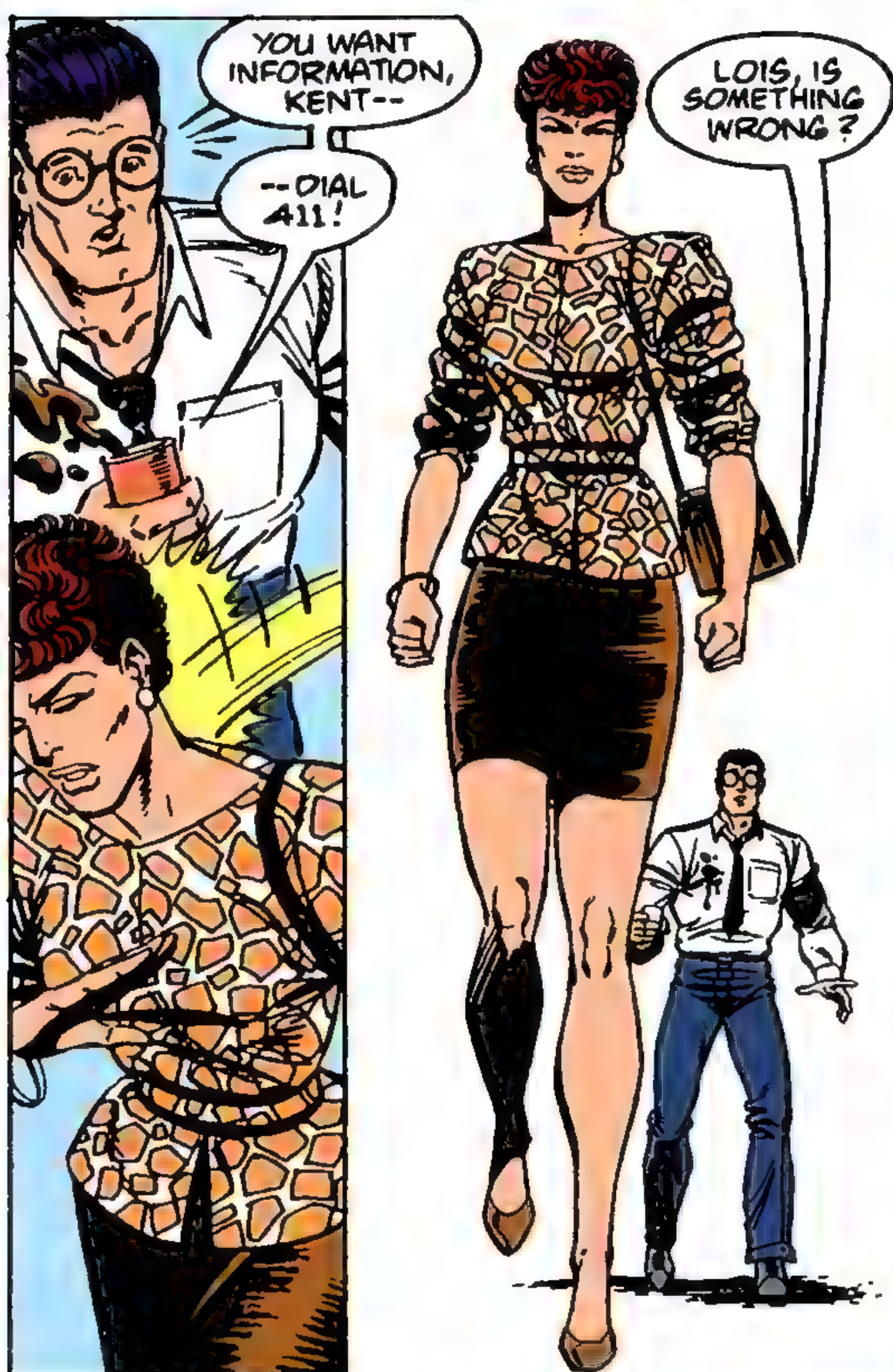
THEN WE'LL ALL
SLEEP BETTER
KNOWING THAT
YOU'RE--

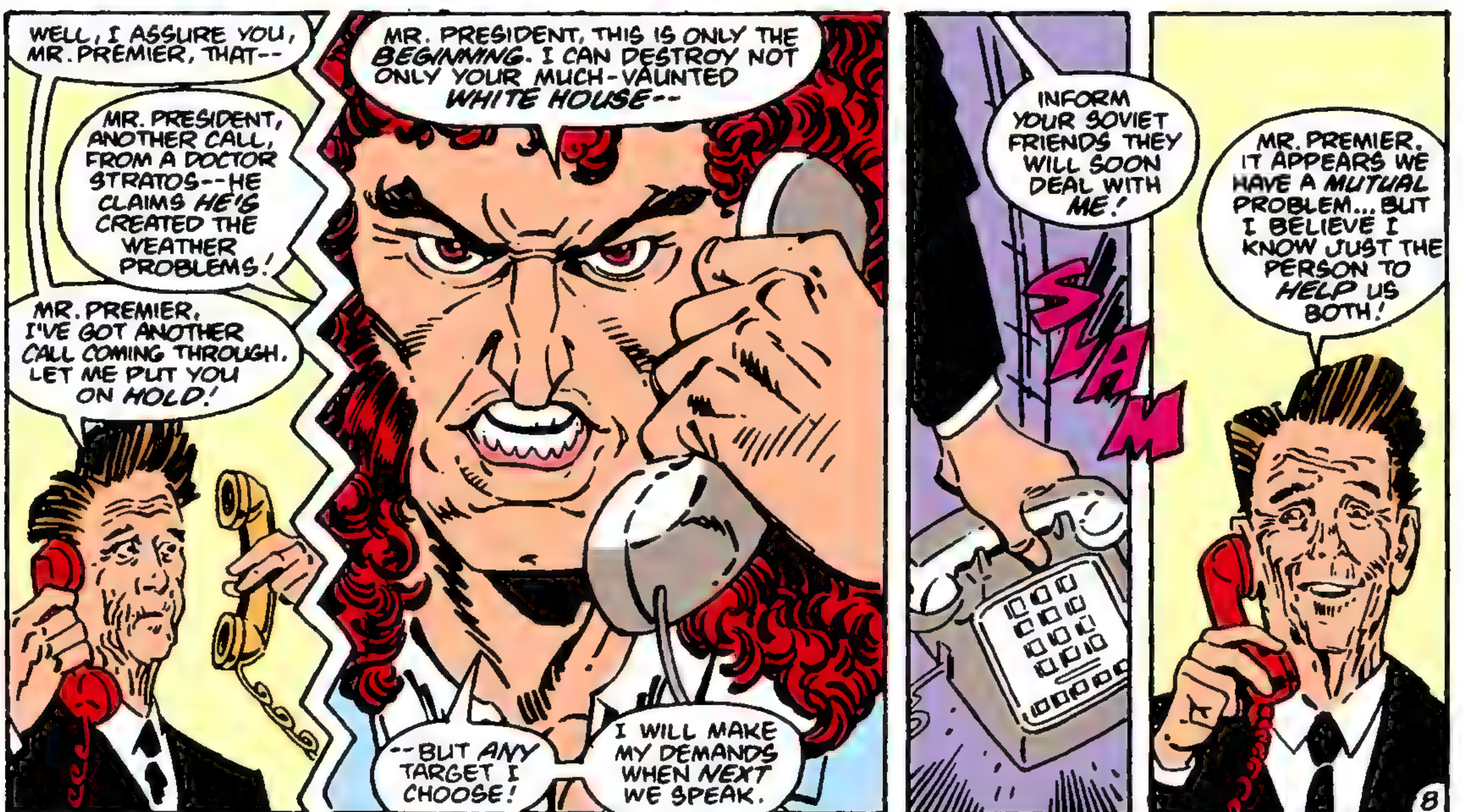
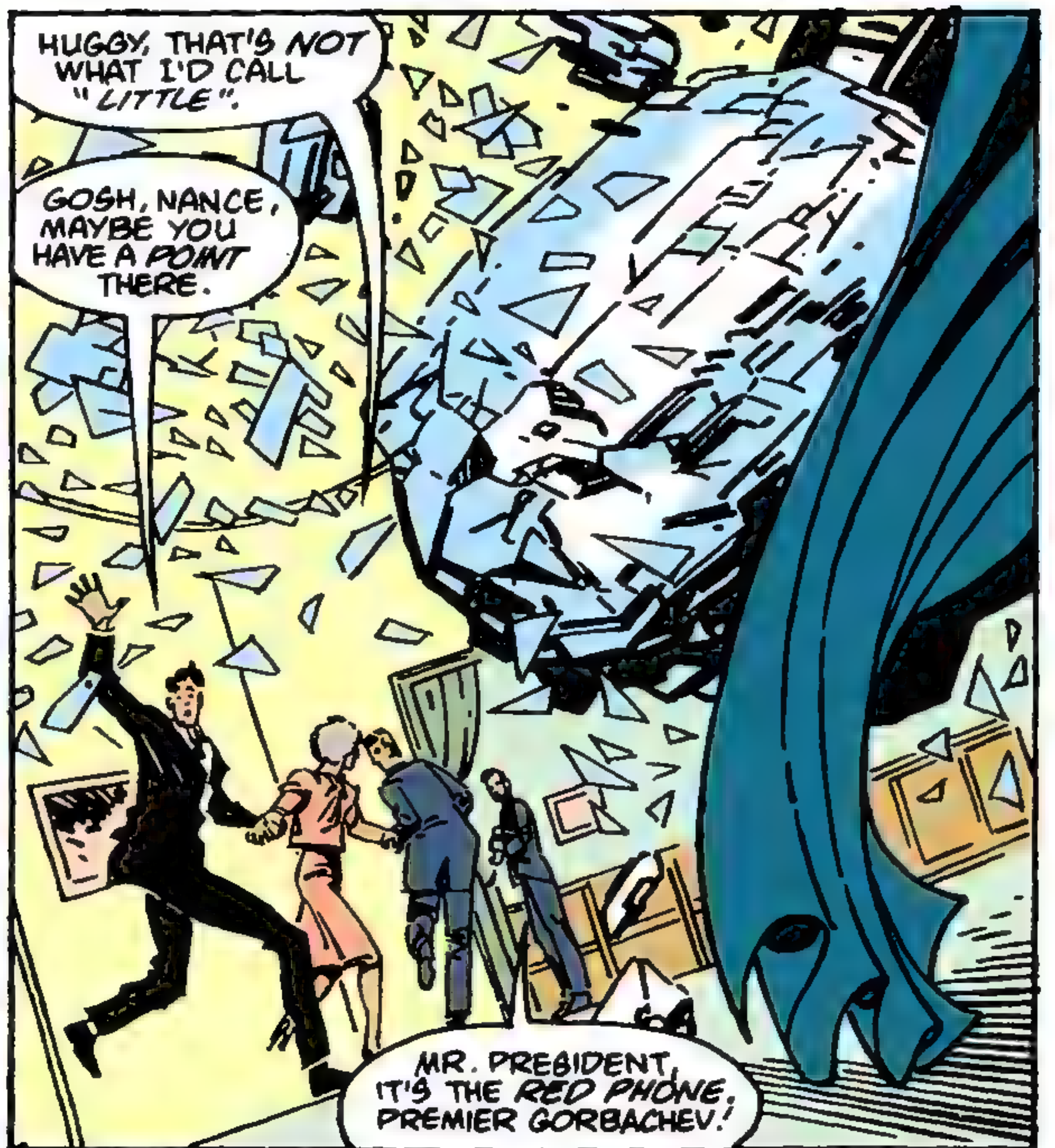
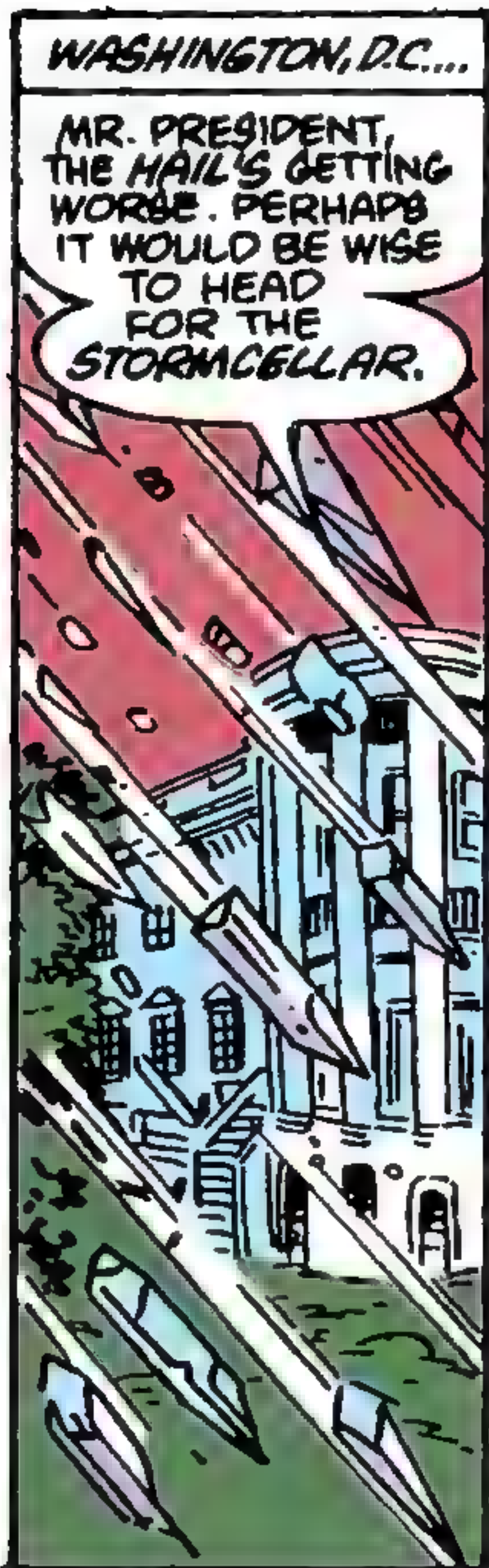


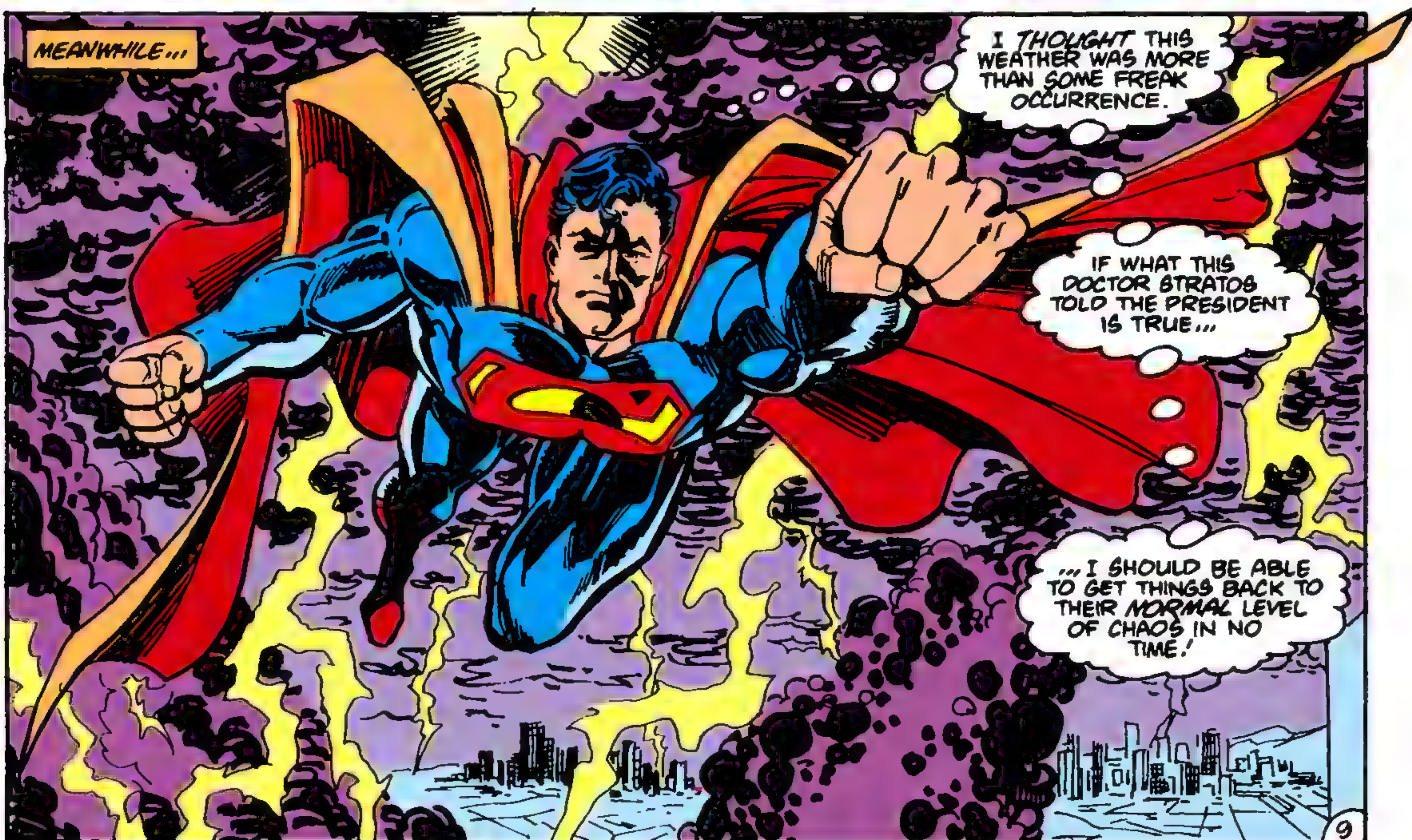
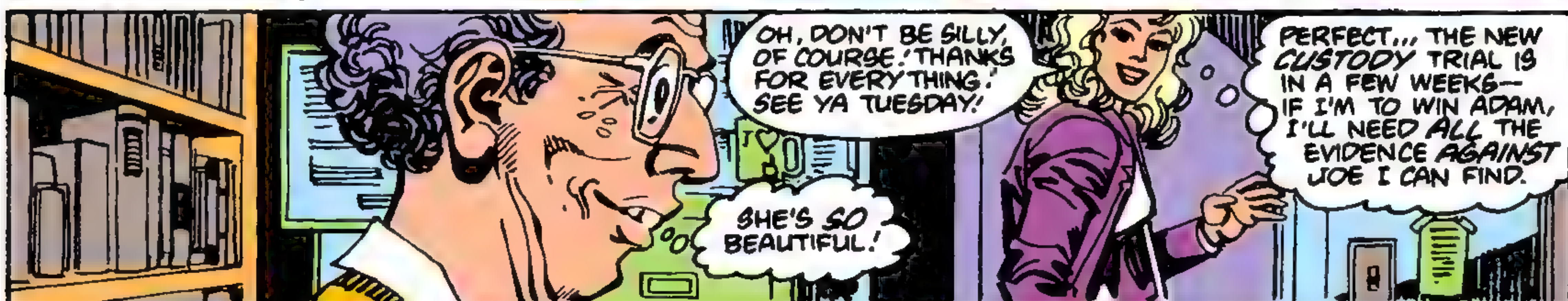
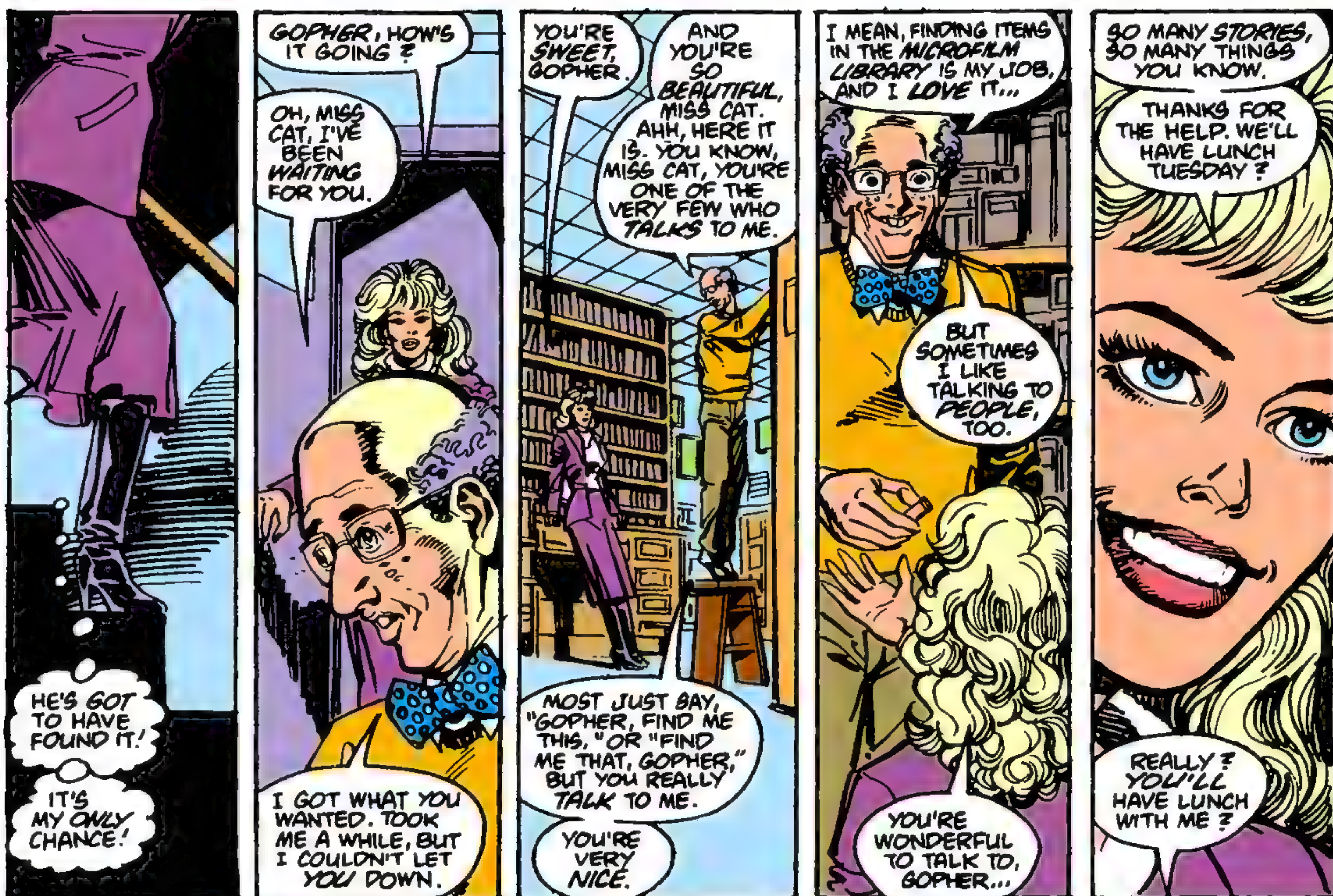
CONSTANTINE!!

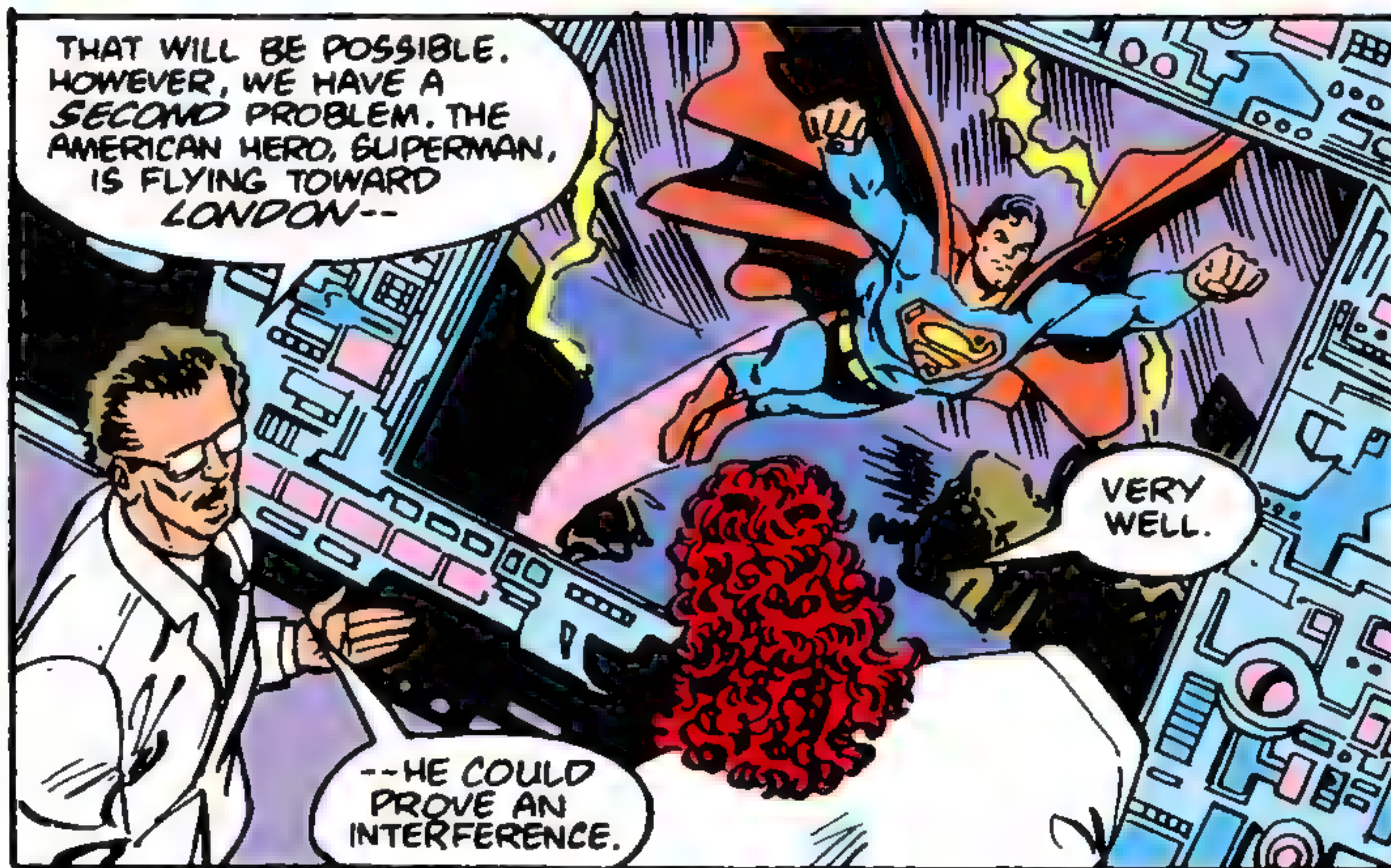
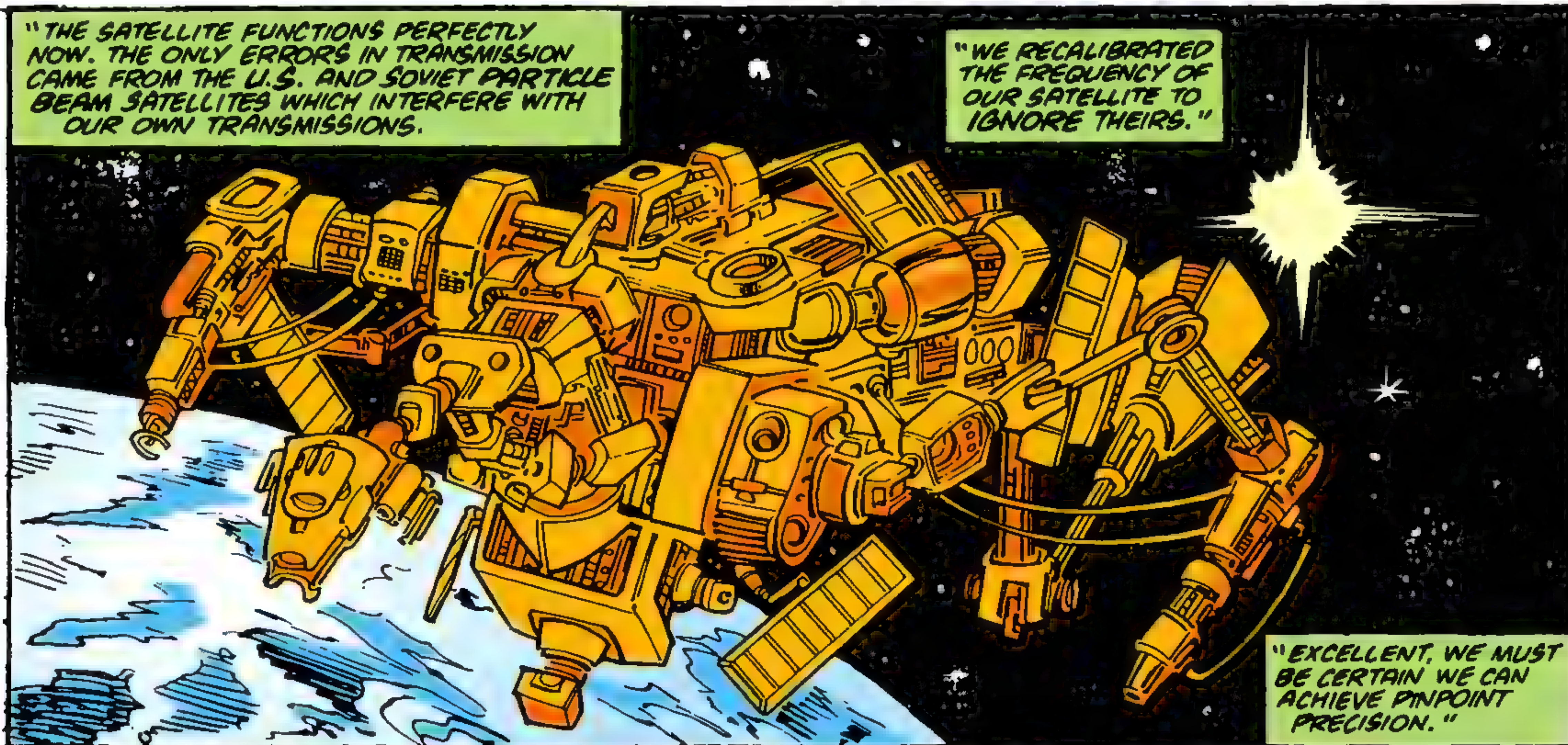
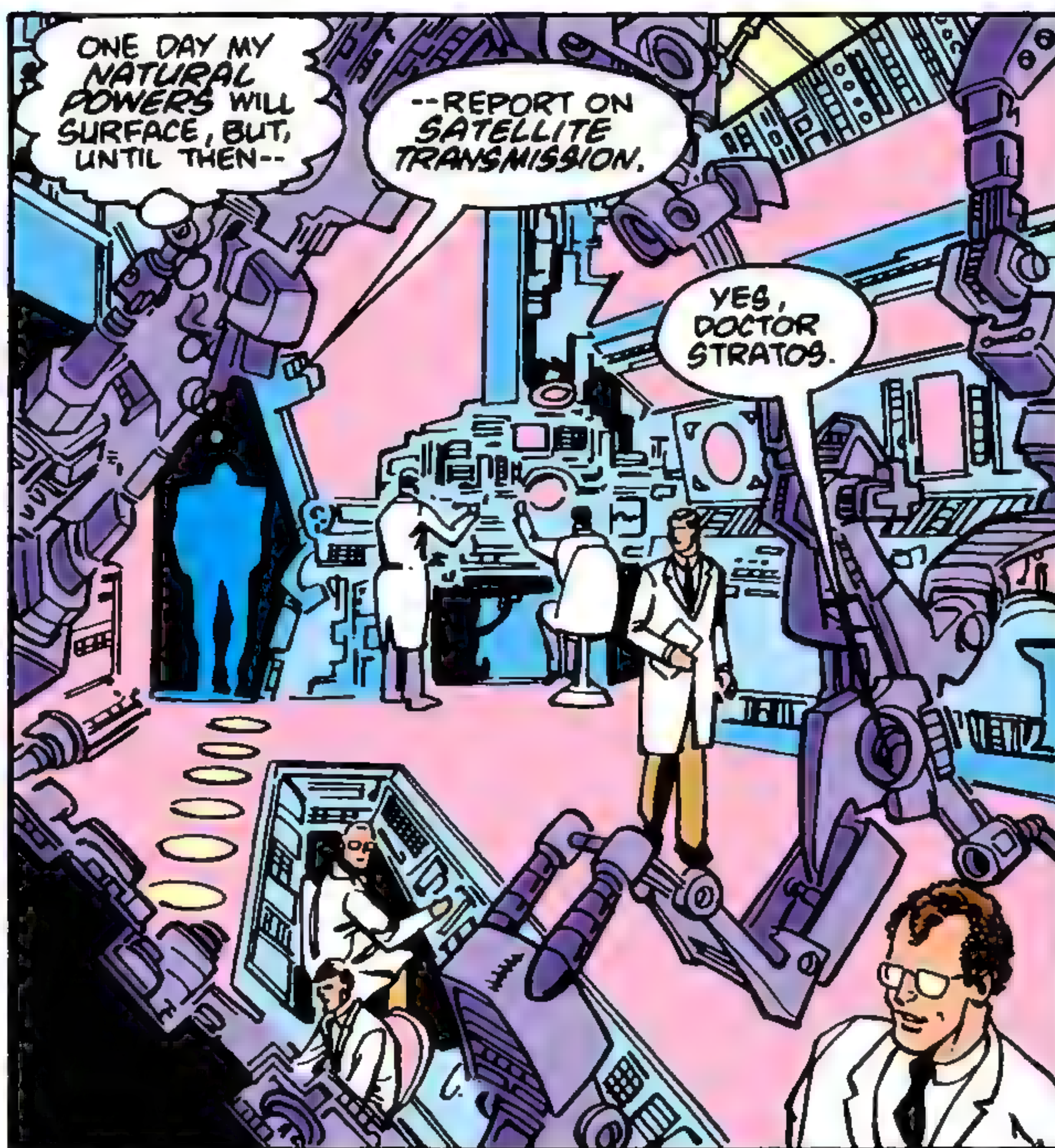
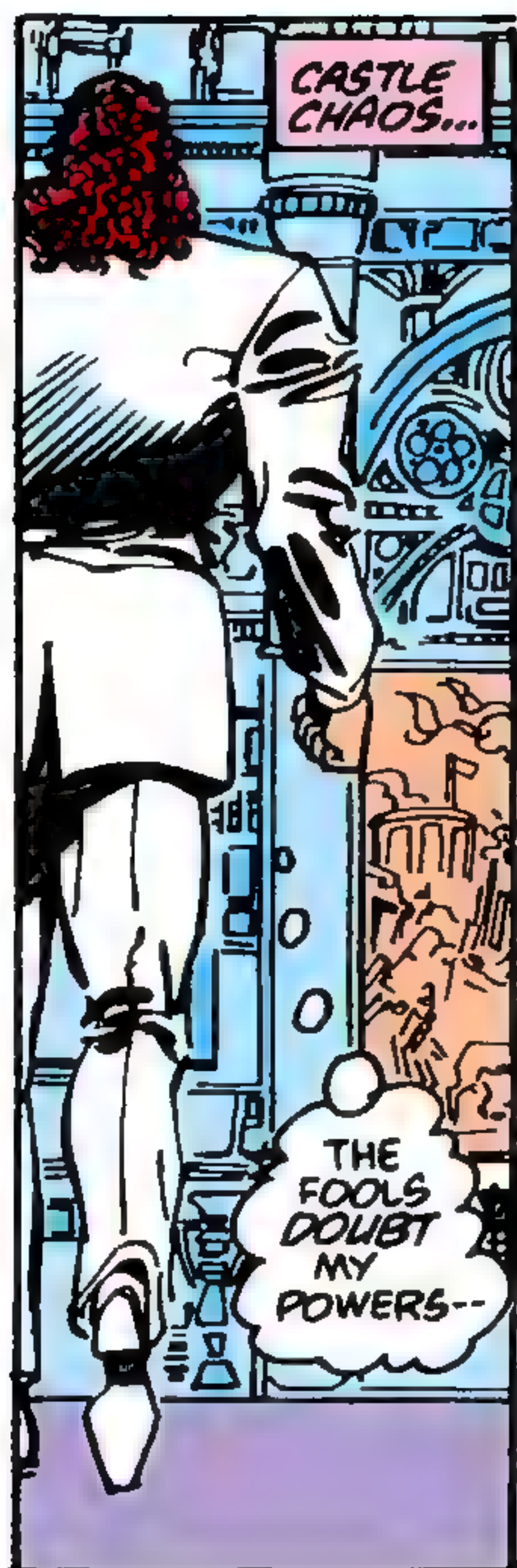


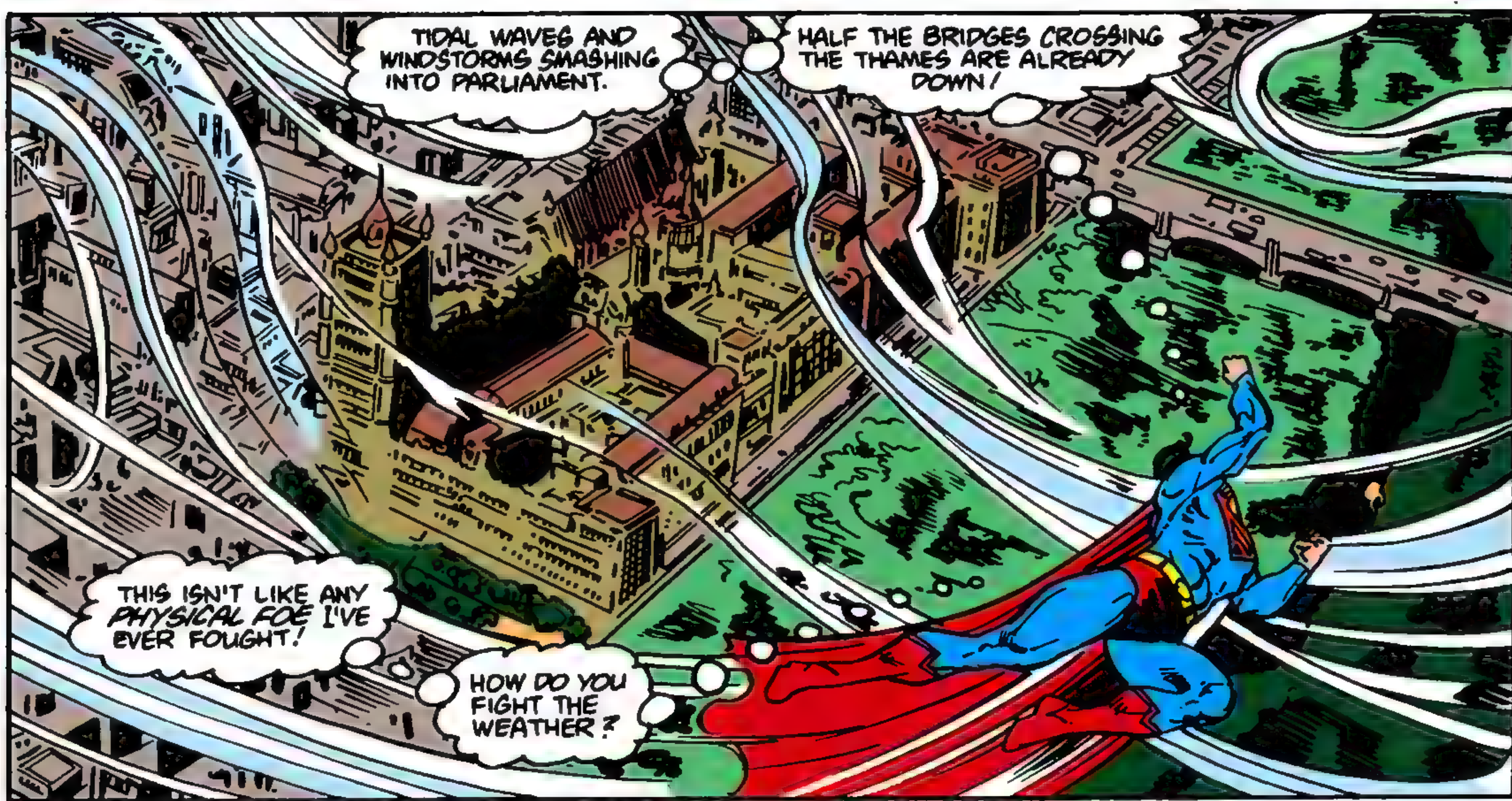












TIDAL WAVES AND WINDSTORMS SMASHING INTO PARLIAMENT.

HALF THE BRIDGES CROSSING THE THAMES ARE ALREADY DOWN!

THIS ISN'T LIKE ANY PHYSICAL FOE I'VE EVER FOUGHT!

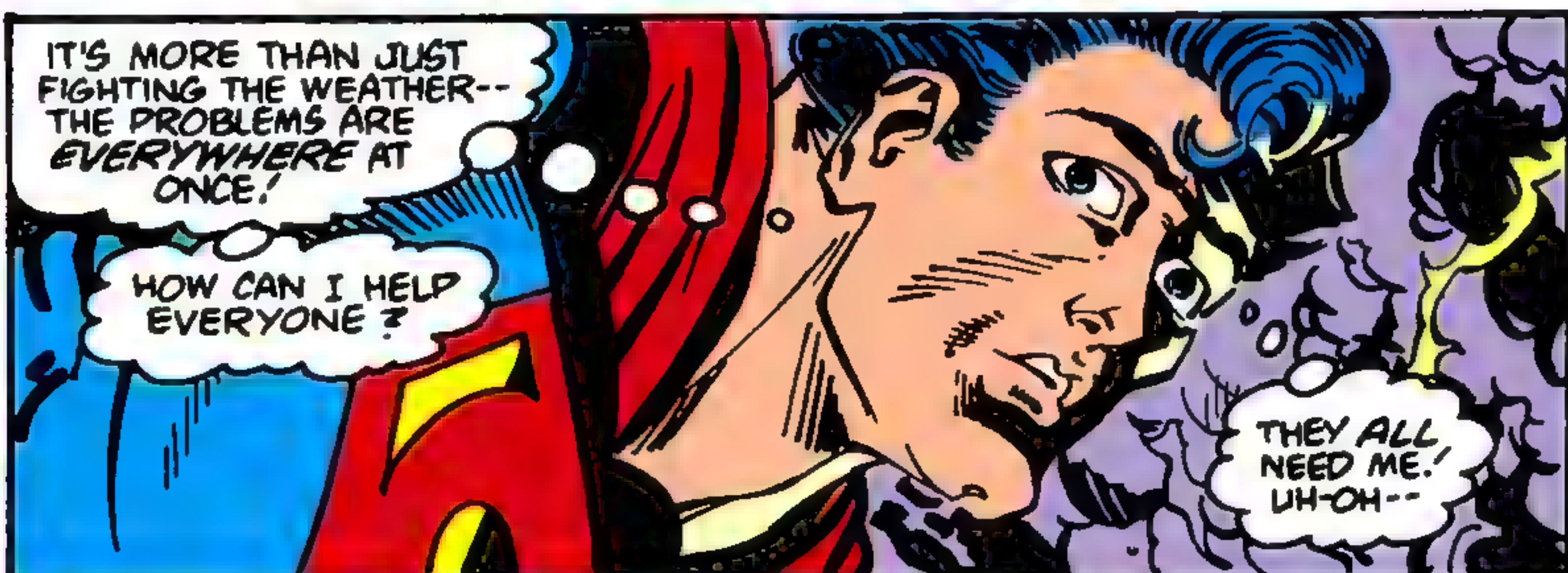
HOW DO YOU FIGHT THE WEATHER?



INCREASE WIND VELOCITY!

FOCUS ITS DIRECTION!

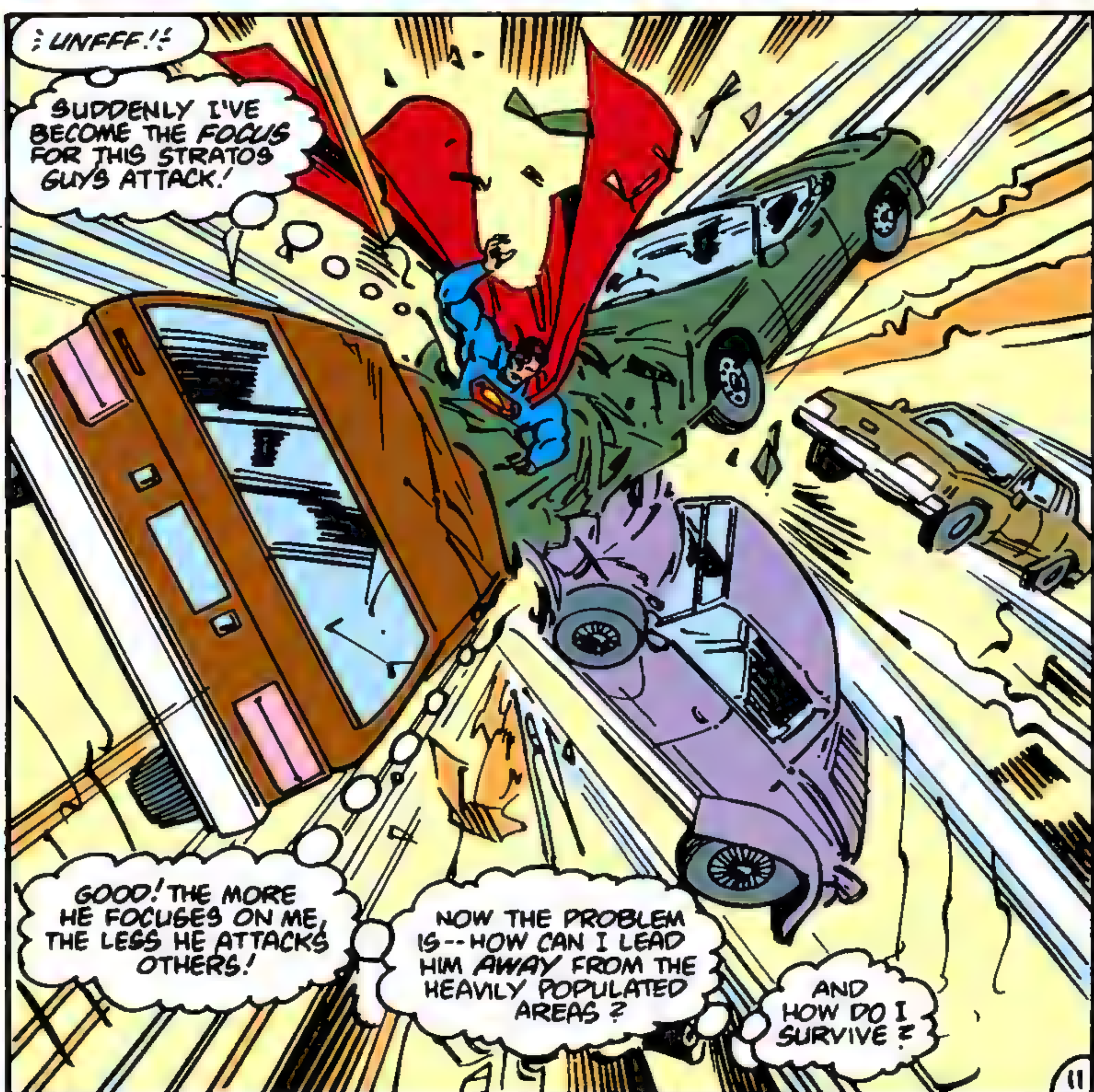
I WANT THE AMERICAN DESTROYED!



IT'S MORE THAN JUST FIGHTING THE WEATHER-- THE PROBLEMS ARE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE!

HOW CAN I HELP EVERYONE?

THEY ALL NEED ME! UH-OH--



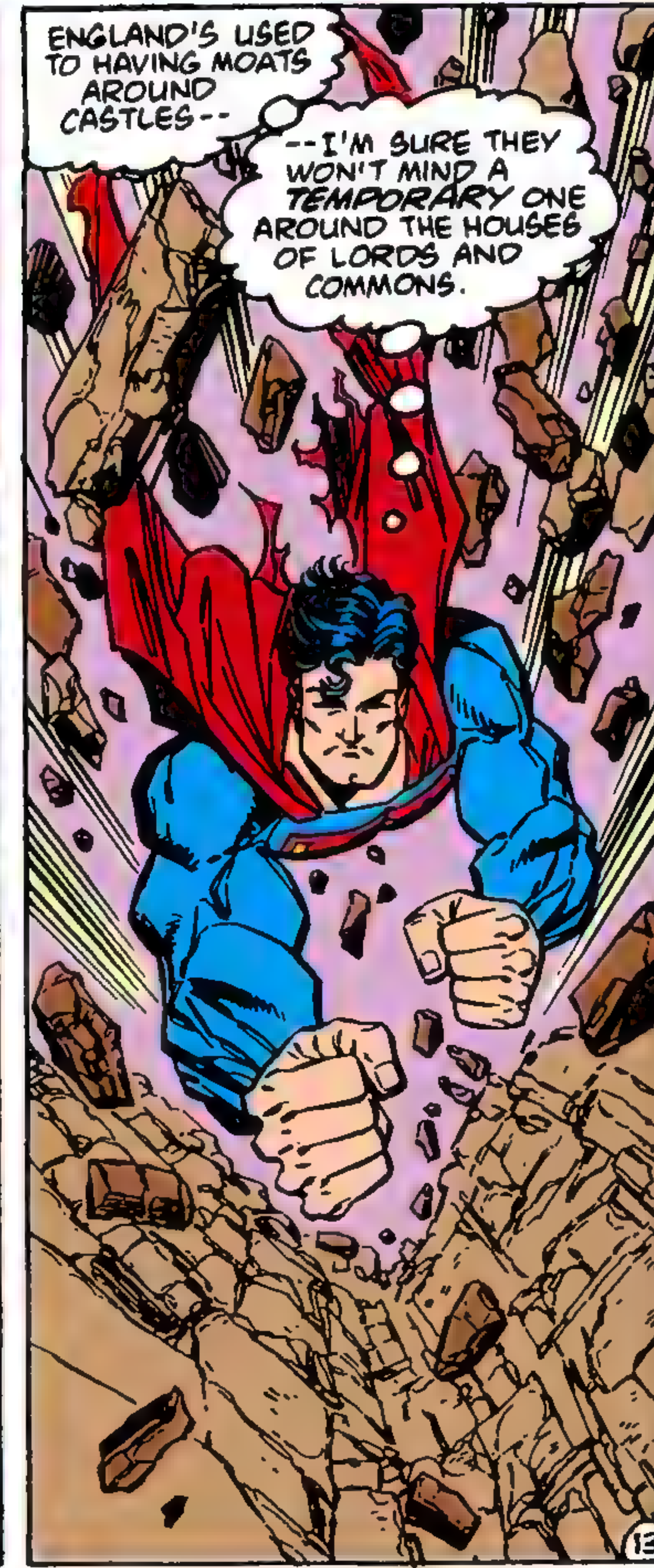
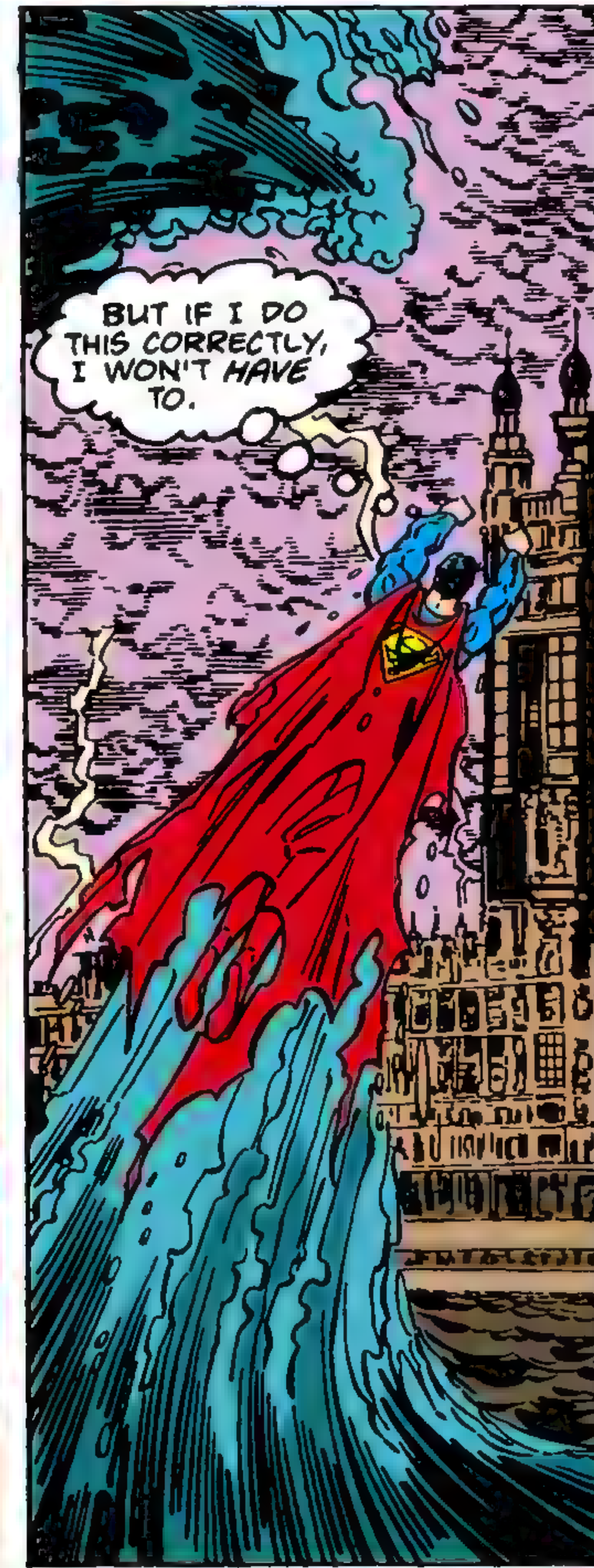
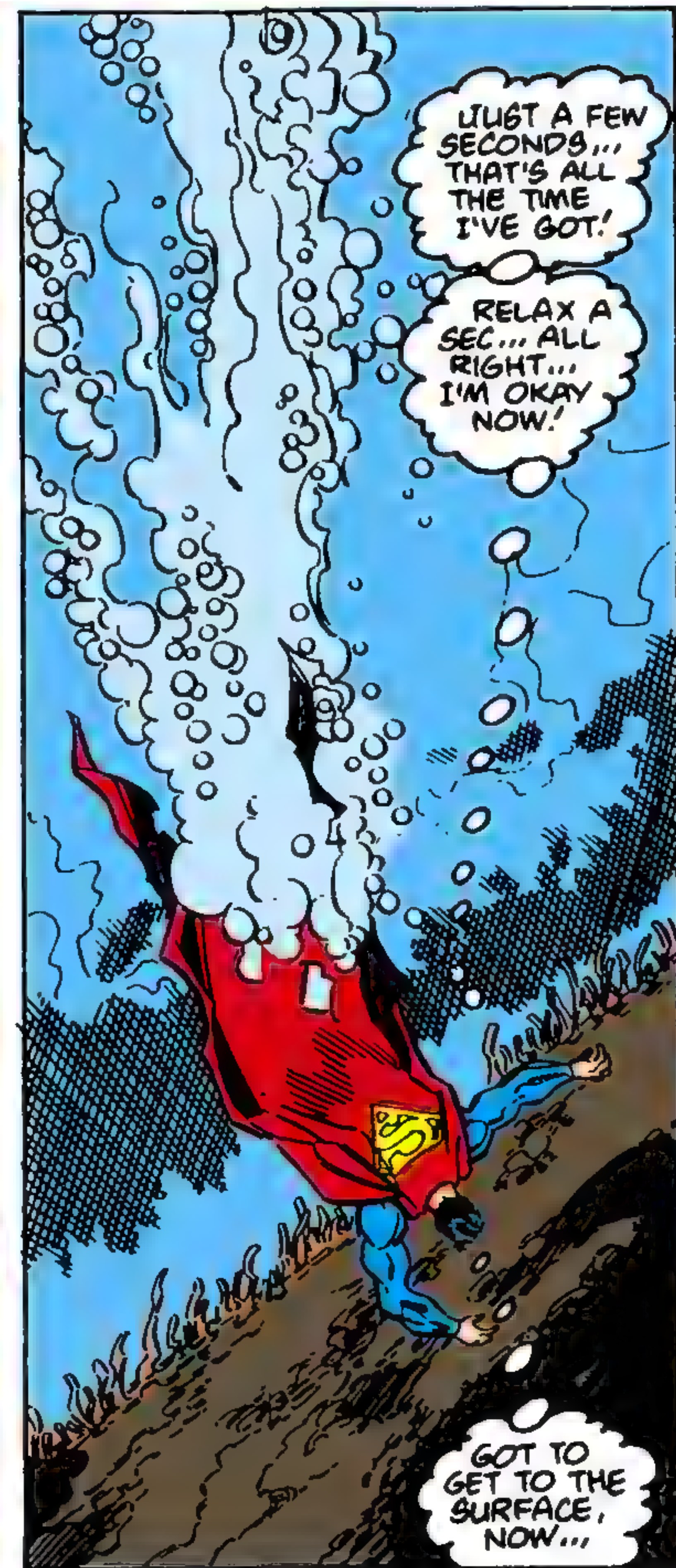
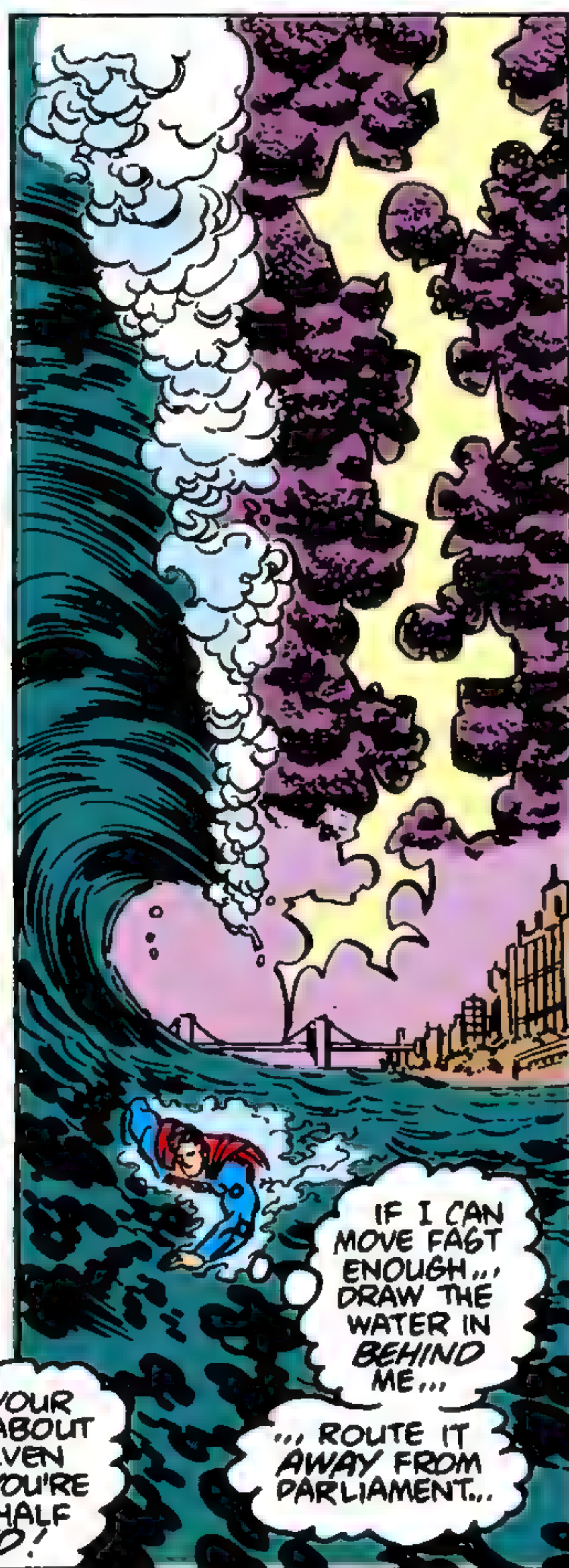
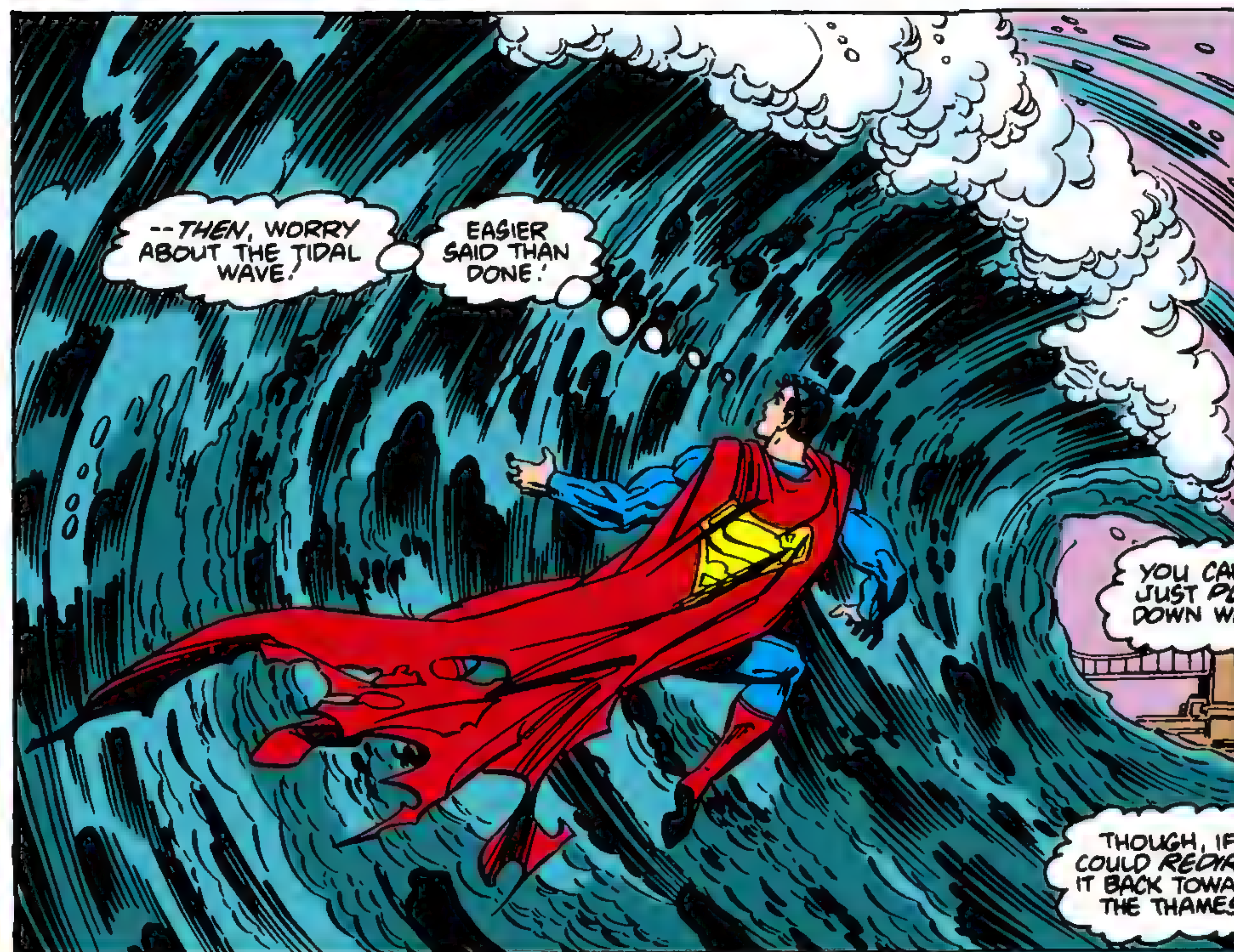
UNFFF!!

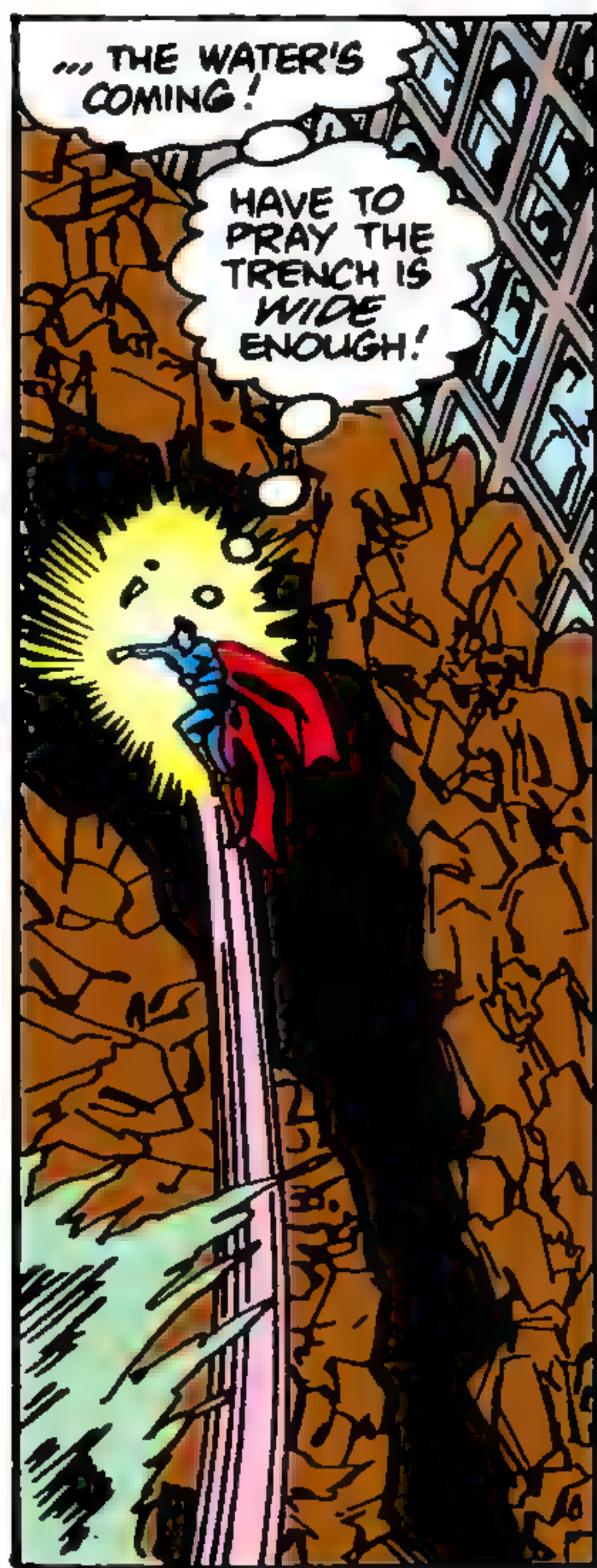
SUDDENLY I'VE BECOME THE FOCUS FOR THIS STRATOS GUYS ATTACK!

GOOD! THE MORE HE FOCUSES ON ME, THE LESS HE ATTACKS OTHERS!

NOW THE PROBLEM IS-- HOW CAN I LEAD HIM AWAY FROM THE HEAVILY POPULATED AREAS?

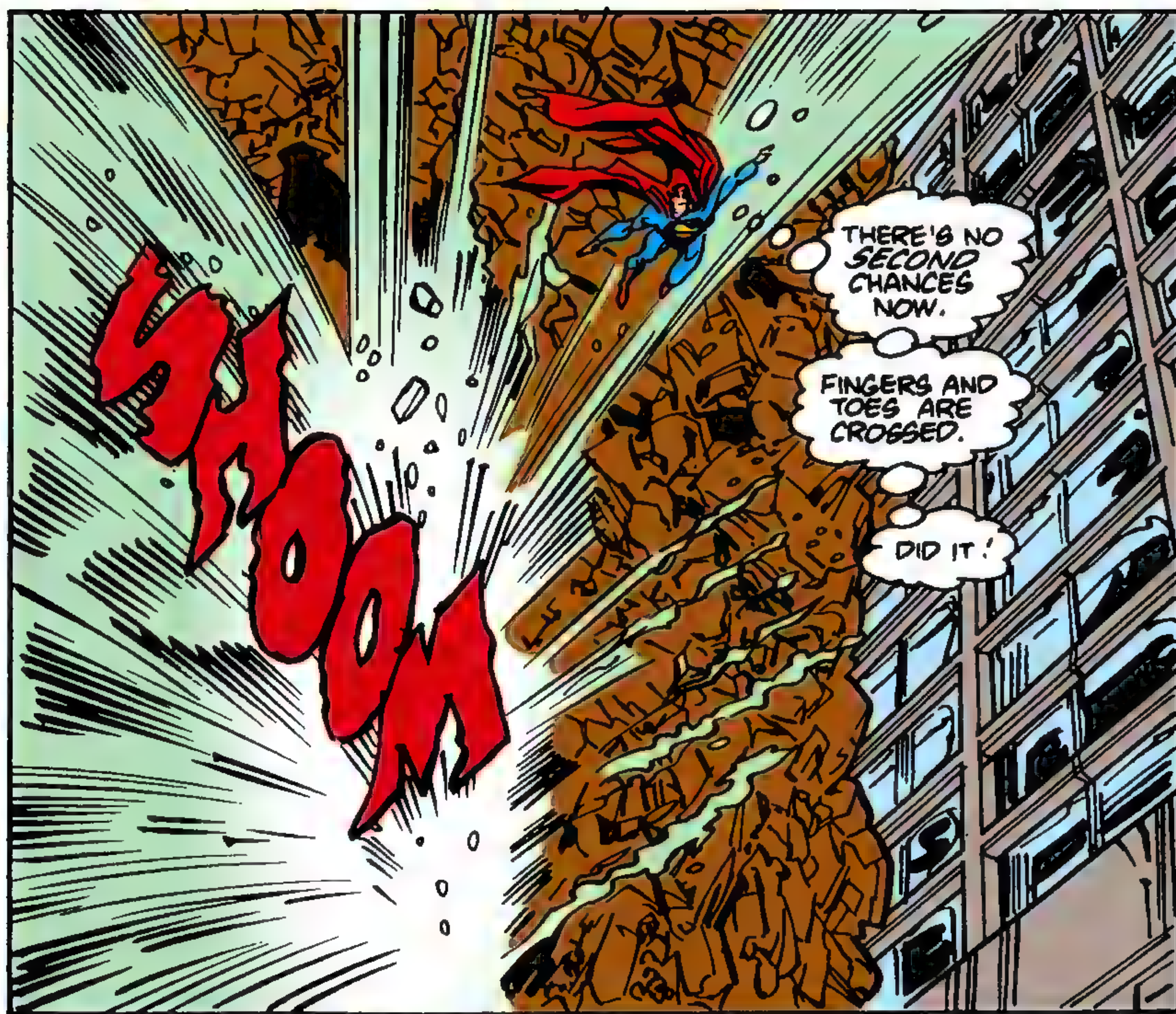
AND HOW DO I SURVIVE?





... THE WATER'S COMING!

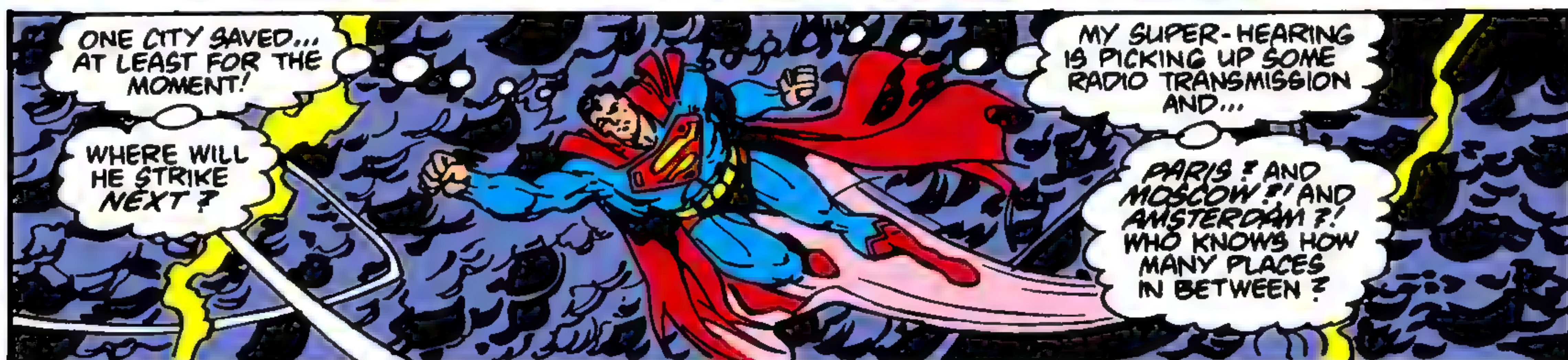
HAVE TO PRAY THE TRENCH IS WIDE ENOUGH!



THERE'S NO SECOND CHANCES NOW.

FINGERS AND TOES ARE CROSSED.

DID IT!



ONE CITY SAVED... AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT!

WHERE WILL HE STRIKE NEXT?

MY SUPER-HEARING IS PICKING UP SOME RADIO TRANSMISSION AND...

PARIS? AND MOSCOW? AND AMSTERDAM? WHO KNOWS HOW MANY PLACES IN BETWEEN?



I CAN'T BE EVERYWHERE... AND NOT EVEN ALL THE OTHER HEROES CAN HANDLE THIS KIND OF EMERGENCY.

SO THE TRICK IS NOT TO GET BOGGED DOWN IN EVERY CITY, BUT TO GET TO THE CAUSE!



WHICH ISN'T AS SIMPLE AS IT SOUNDS!

I JUST CAN'T IGNORE CRIES FOR HELP...

... EVEN WHEN THERE'S NOT MUCH I CAN DO ABOUT IT!

PARIS IS UNDER A HALF-MILE-THICK FOG!

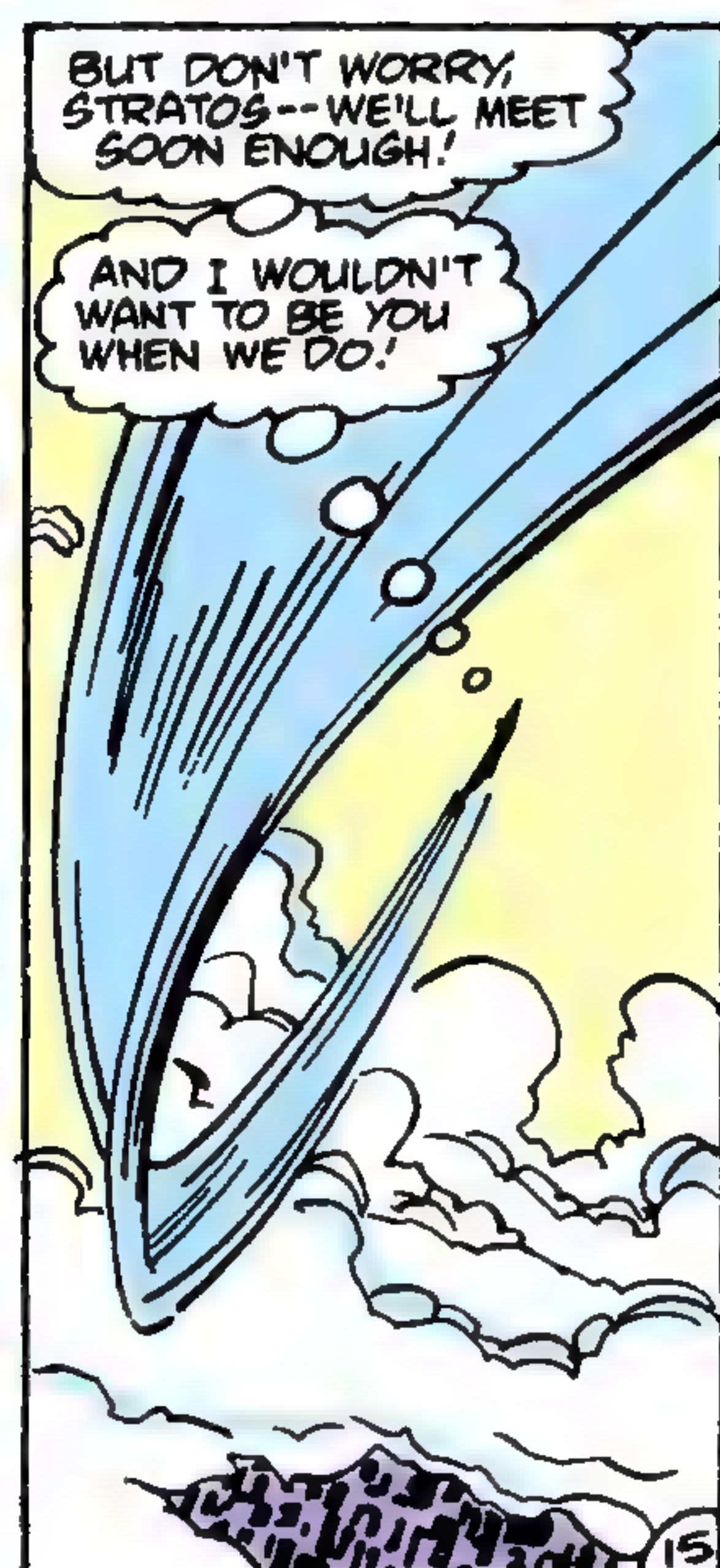
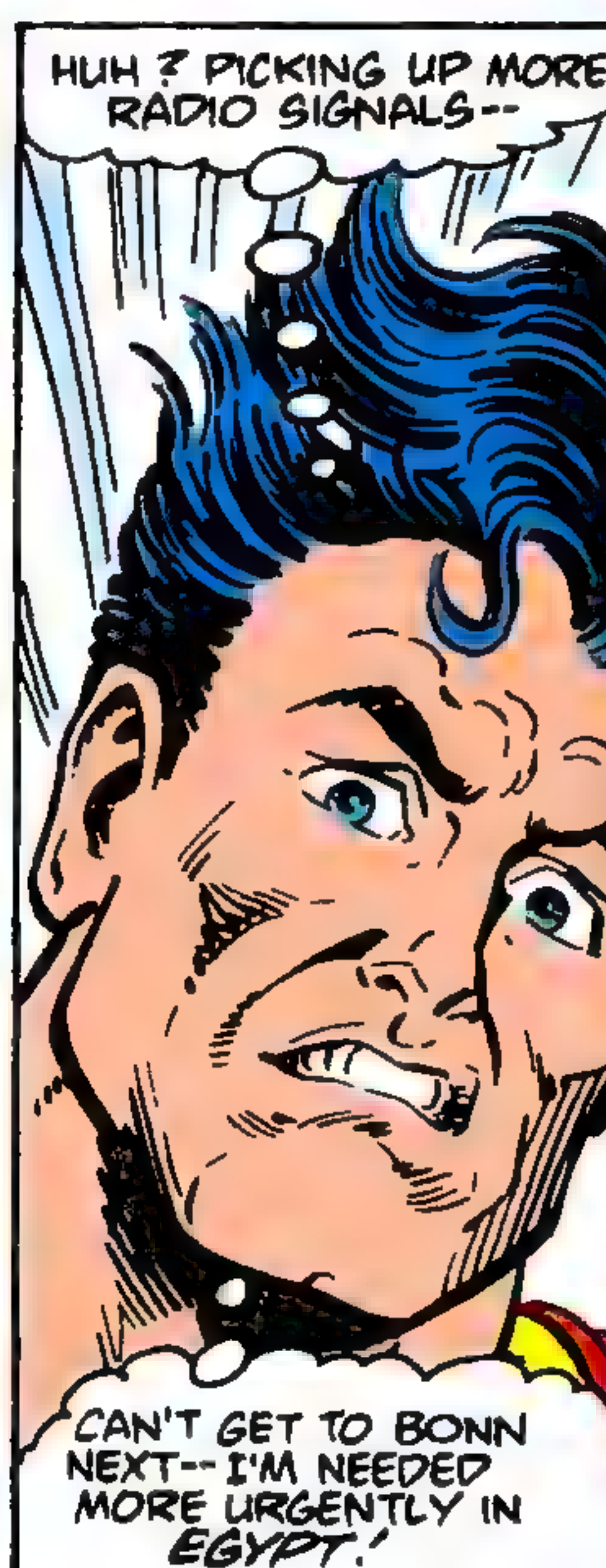
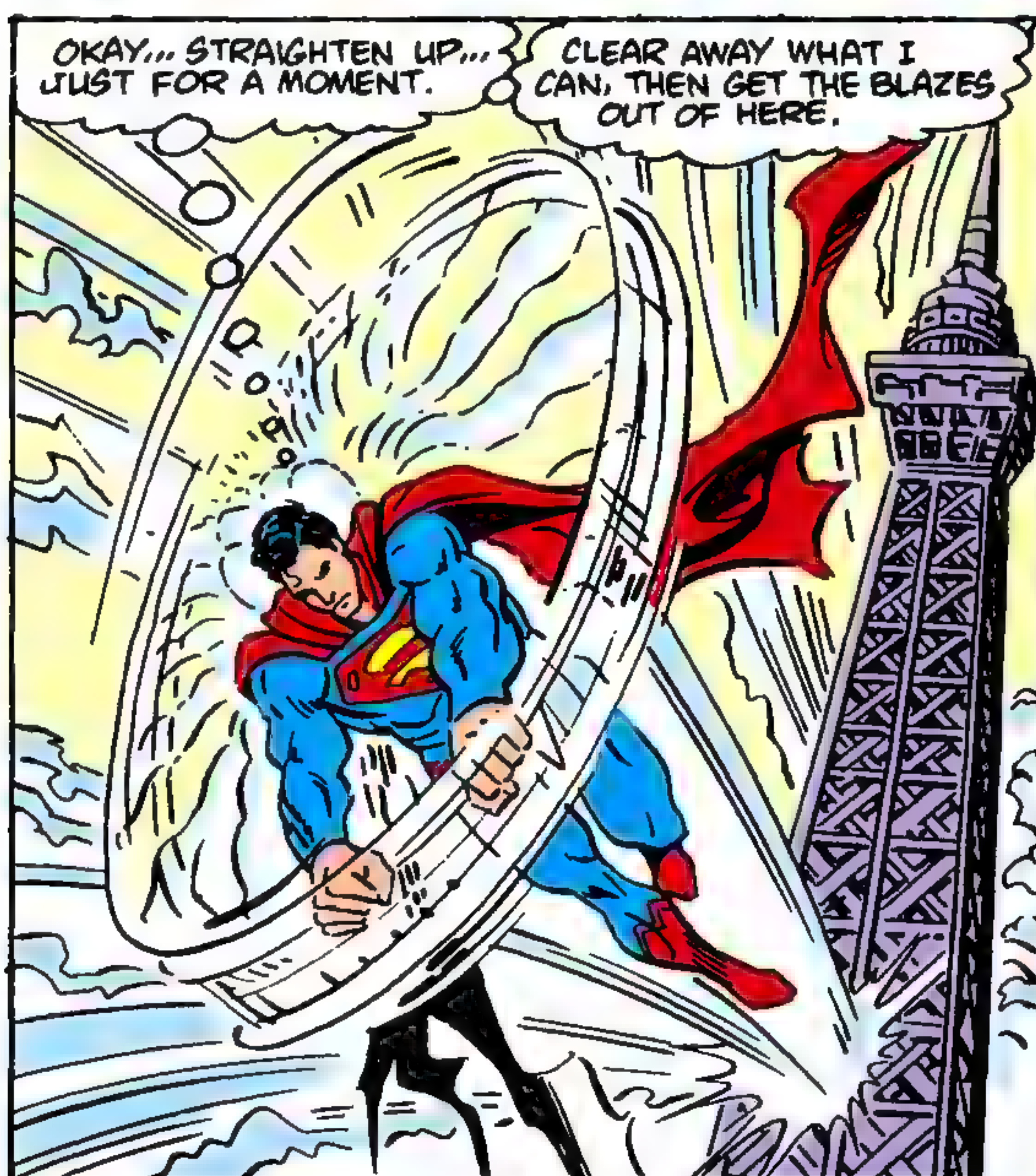
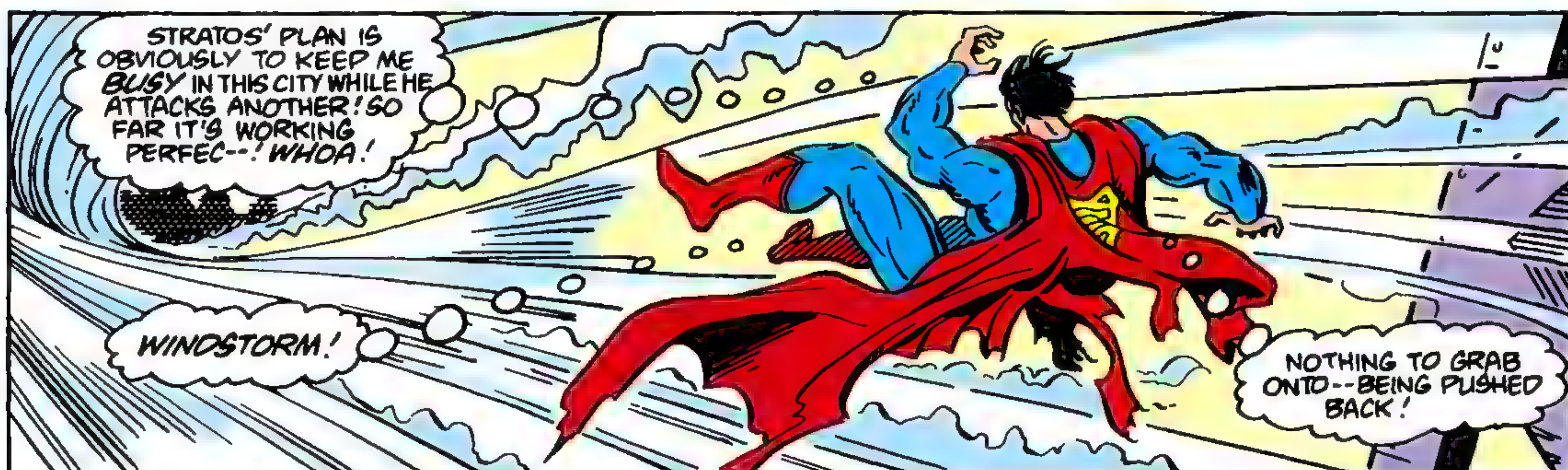


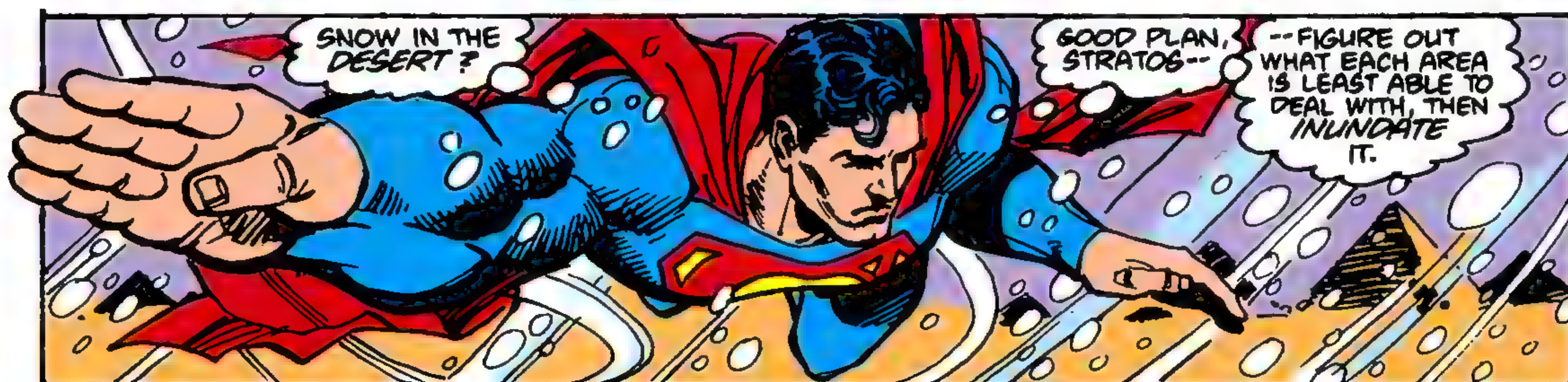
I NEED MY TELESCOPIC VISION JUST TO SEE TEN FEET IN FRONT OF ME!

DON'T LIKE WHAT I SEE, EITHER--

I'M GOING TO HAVE TO HOLD OFF MY SEARCH FOR STRATOG!

SUPERMAN'S NEEDED!

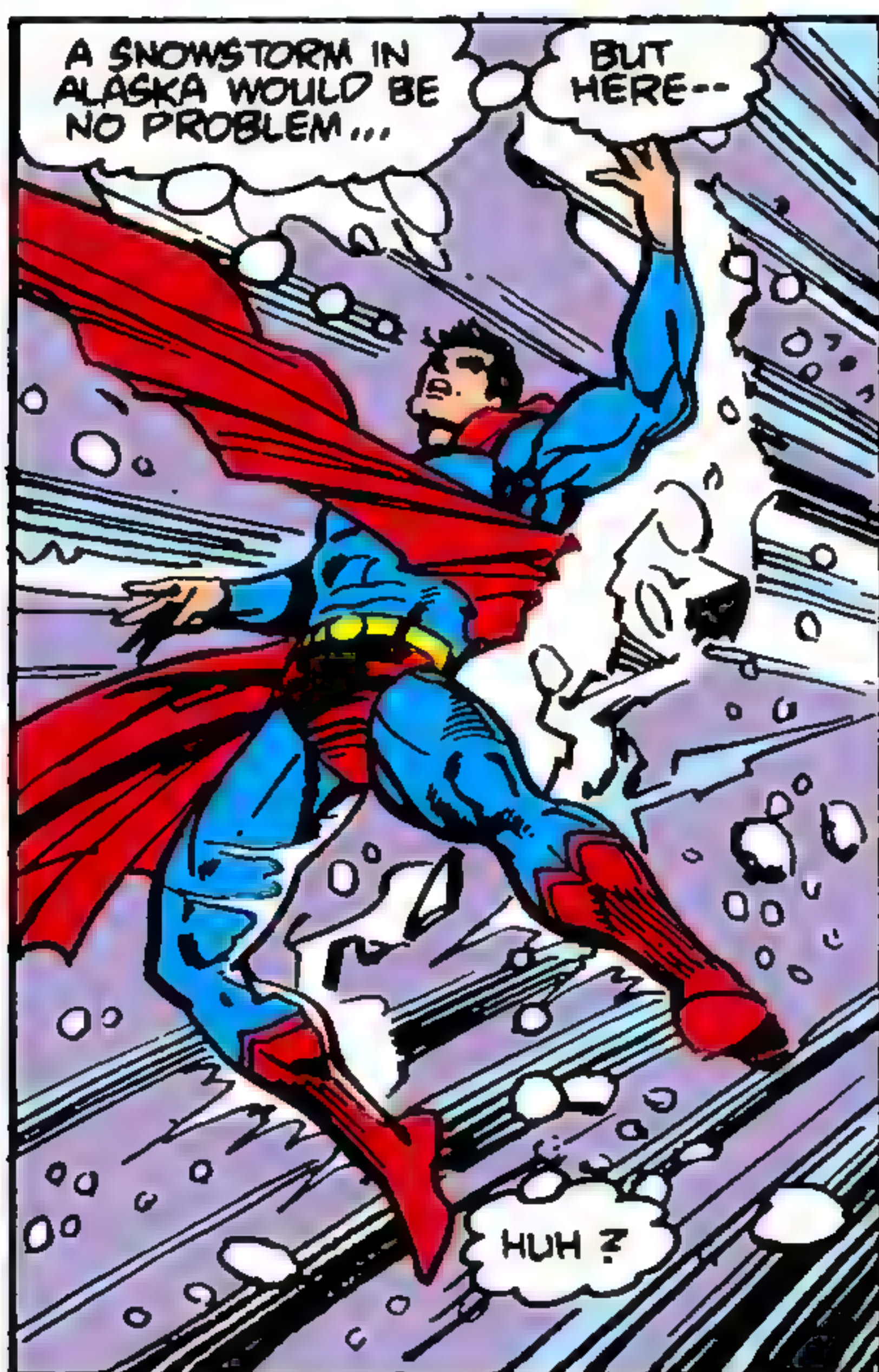




SNOW IN THE
DESERT?

GOOD PLAN,
STRATOS---

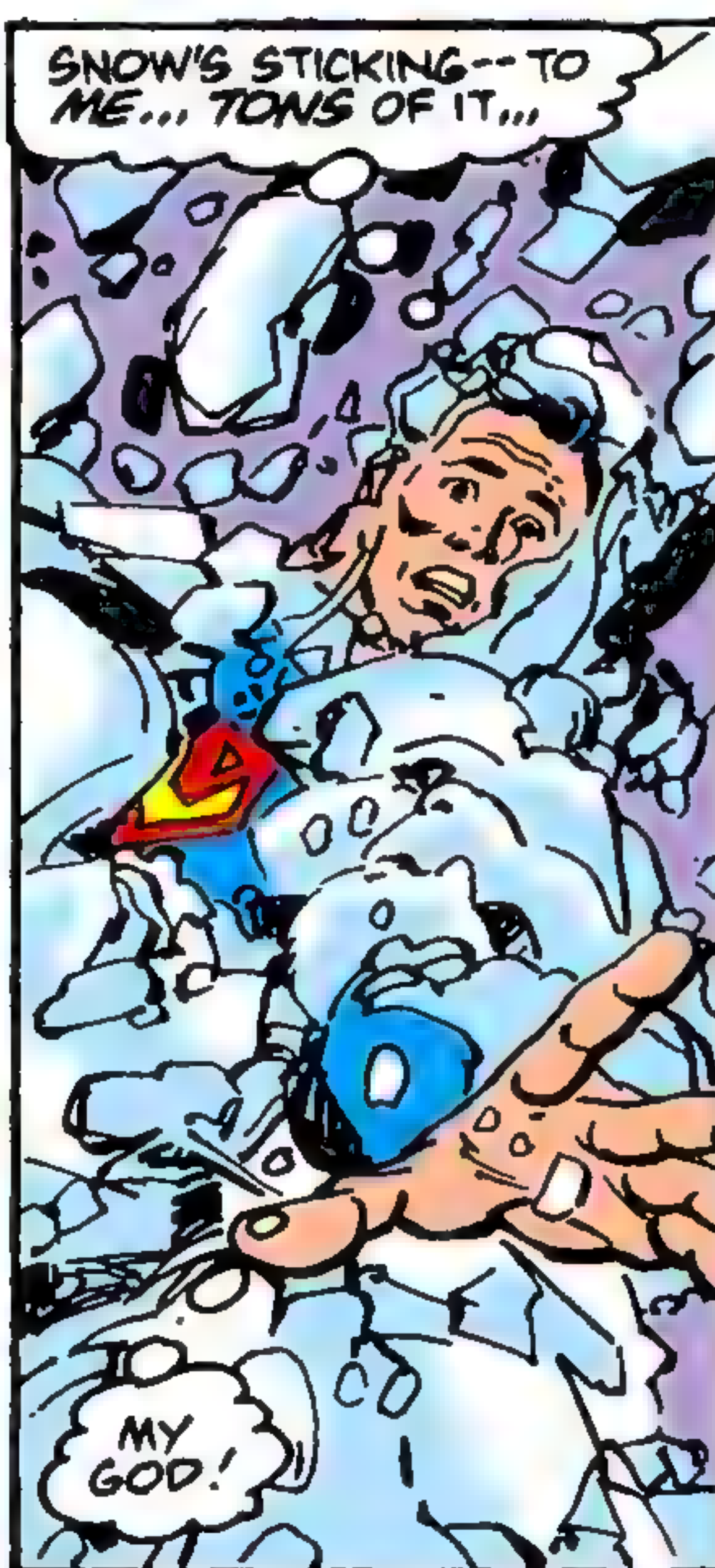
--FIGURE OUT
WHAT EACH AREA
IS LEAST ABLE TO
DEAL WITH, THEN
INUNDATE
IT.



A SNOWSTORM IN
ALASKA WOULD BE
NO PROBLEM...

BUT
HERE---

HUH?



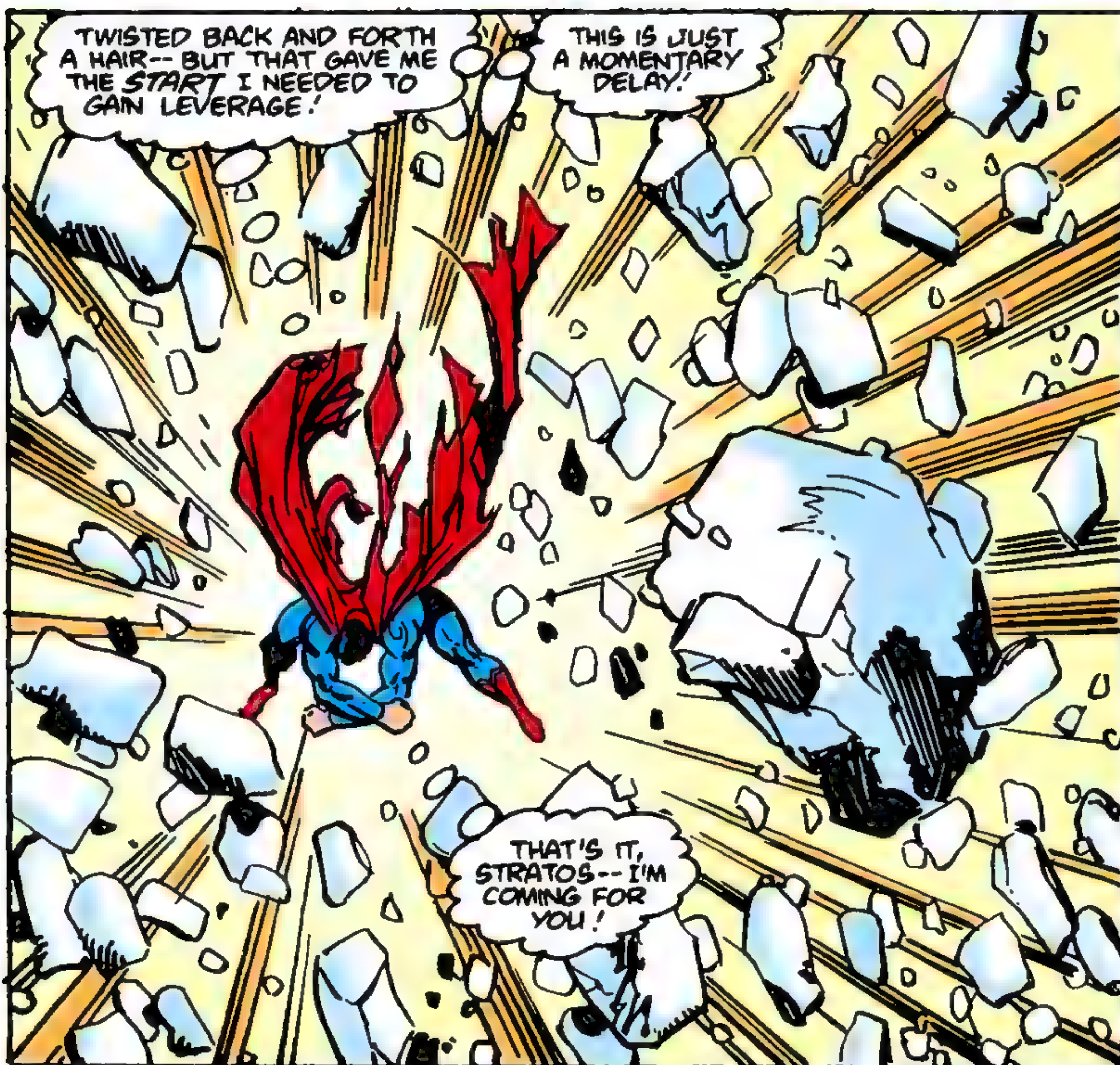
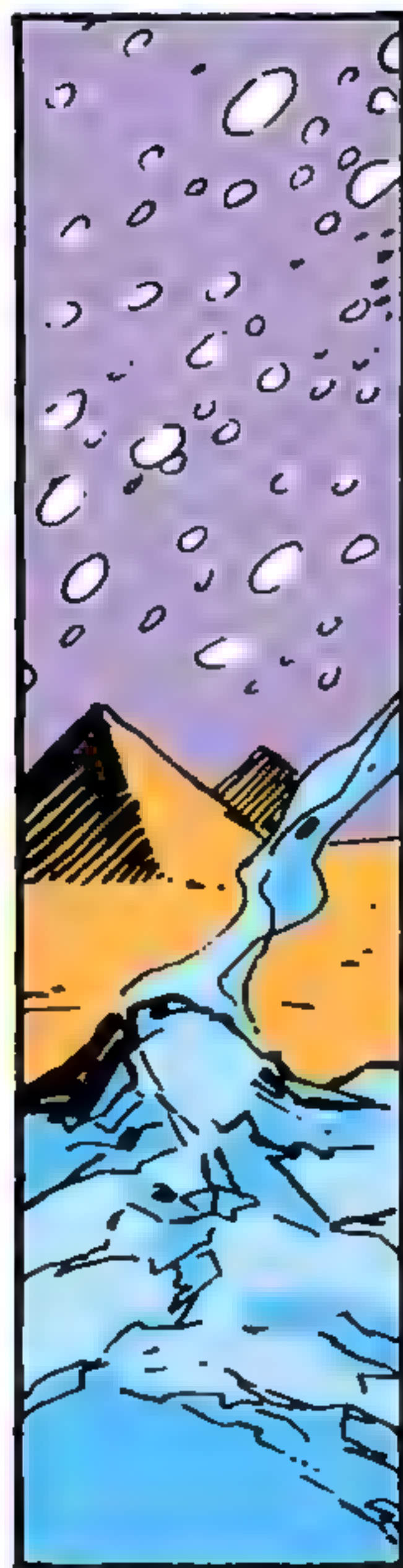
SNOW'S STICKING-- TO
ME... TONS OF IT...

MY
GOD!



COMPLETELY FREEZING
AROUND ME... TRYING
TO MOVE... BUT IT'S
SO DIFFICULT...

CAN...
BARELY...
GET...
MY...



TWISTED BACK AND FORTH
A HAIR-- BUT THAT GAVE ME
THE START I NEEDED TO
GAIN LEVERAGE!

THIS IS JUST
A MOMENTARY
DELAY!

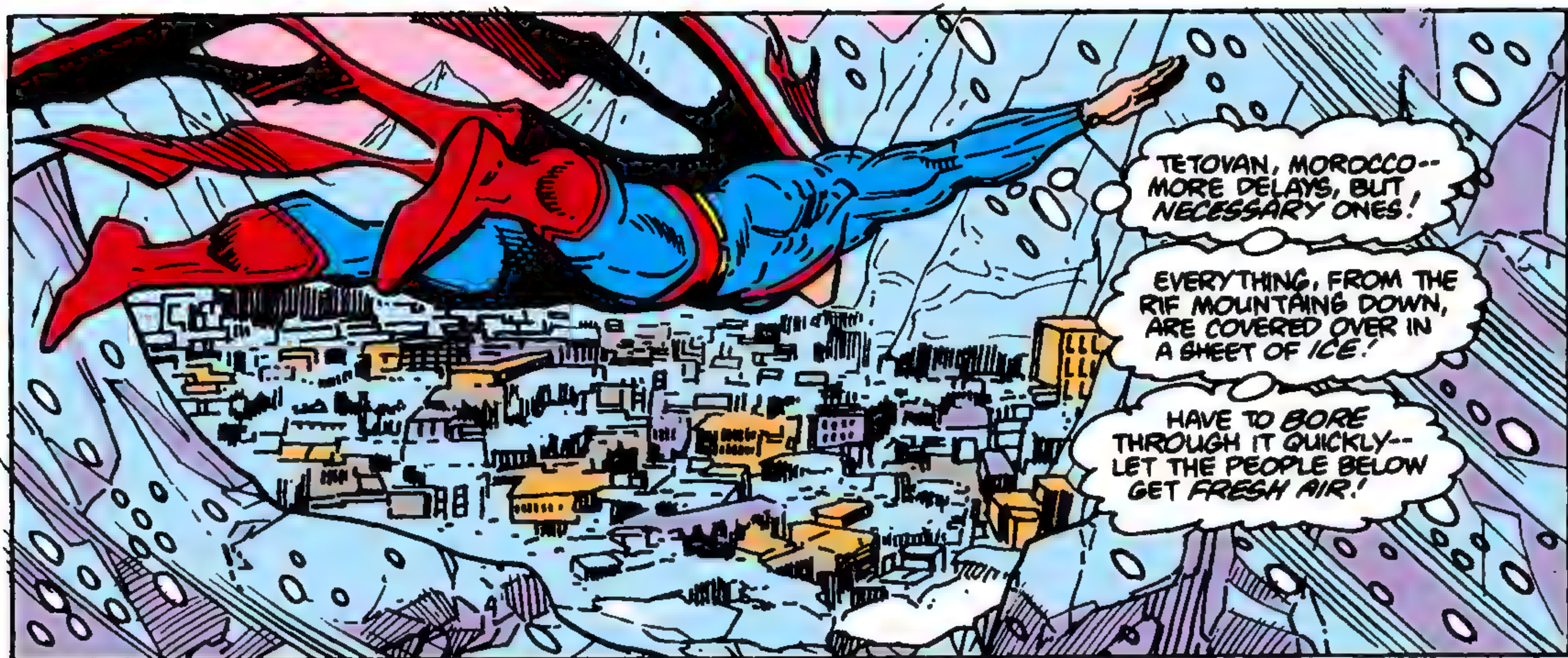
THAT'S IT,
STRATOS--- I'M
COMING FOR
YOU!



CAN NOTHING
STOP HIM?

I TOLD YOU
FOOLS BEFORE--
DESTROY
HIM!

FAIL, AND I SWEAR
YOU'LL FEEL MY
WRATH!



TETOVAN, MOROCCO--
MORE DELAYS, BUT
NECESSARY ONES!

EVERYTHING, FROM THE
RIF MOUNTAINS DOWN,
ARE COVERED OVER IN
A SHEET OF ICE!

HAVE TO BORE
THROUGH IT QUICKLY--
LET THE PEOPLE BELOW
GET FRESH AIR!



STRATOS
WOULD HAVE
KILLED THEM
WITHOUT A
SECOND
THOUGHT IF
I WEREN'T
HERE!

EVERY TIME I
QUESTION
MYSELF, I
HAVE TO
REMEMBER
THAT I, AND
ALL THE
OTHERS
LIKE ME--



--ARE HERE TO
PREVENT CHAOS
LIKE THIS FROM
TAKING OVER!

IT WOULD BE TOO
EASY TO GIVE UP, TO
SAY THIS ISN'T MY
JOB... TO LEAVE IT
TO SOMEONE ELSE
TO HANDLE...

... BUT
I CAN'T!



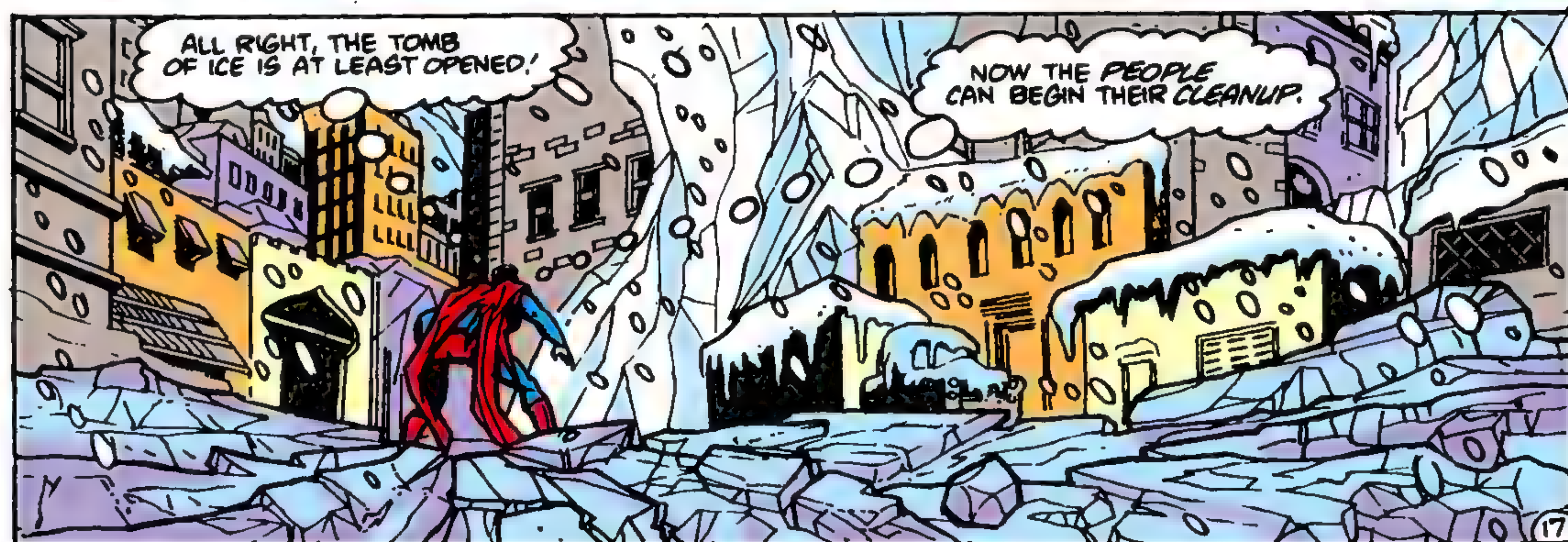
I MAY NOT HAVE
BEEN GIVEN THESE
POWERS FOR A
PURPOSE...

... BUT IF SOMEONE
FAILS TO USE WHAT
THEY'VE GOT, THEY'RE
NOT FAILING OTHERS--



-- THEY'RE FAILING
THEMSELVES!

AND I'M NOT
ABOUT TO DO
THAT!



ALL RIGHT, THE TOMB
OF ICE IS AT LEAST OPENED!

NOW THE PEOPLE
CAN BEGIN THEIR CLEANUP.



I'VE GOT TO FIND STRATOS SOON... I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS! HE'S EXHAUSTING ME!

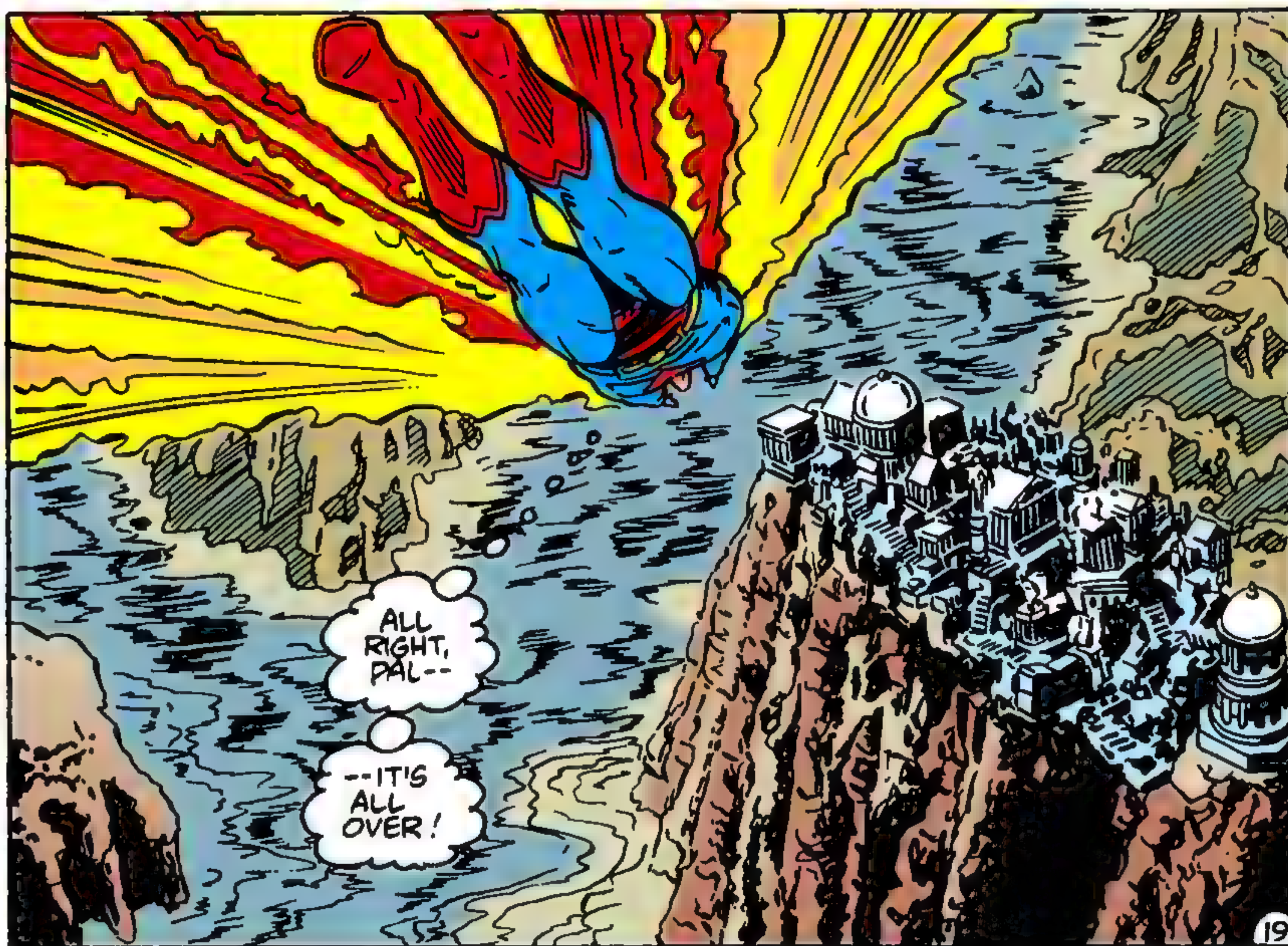
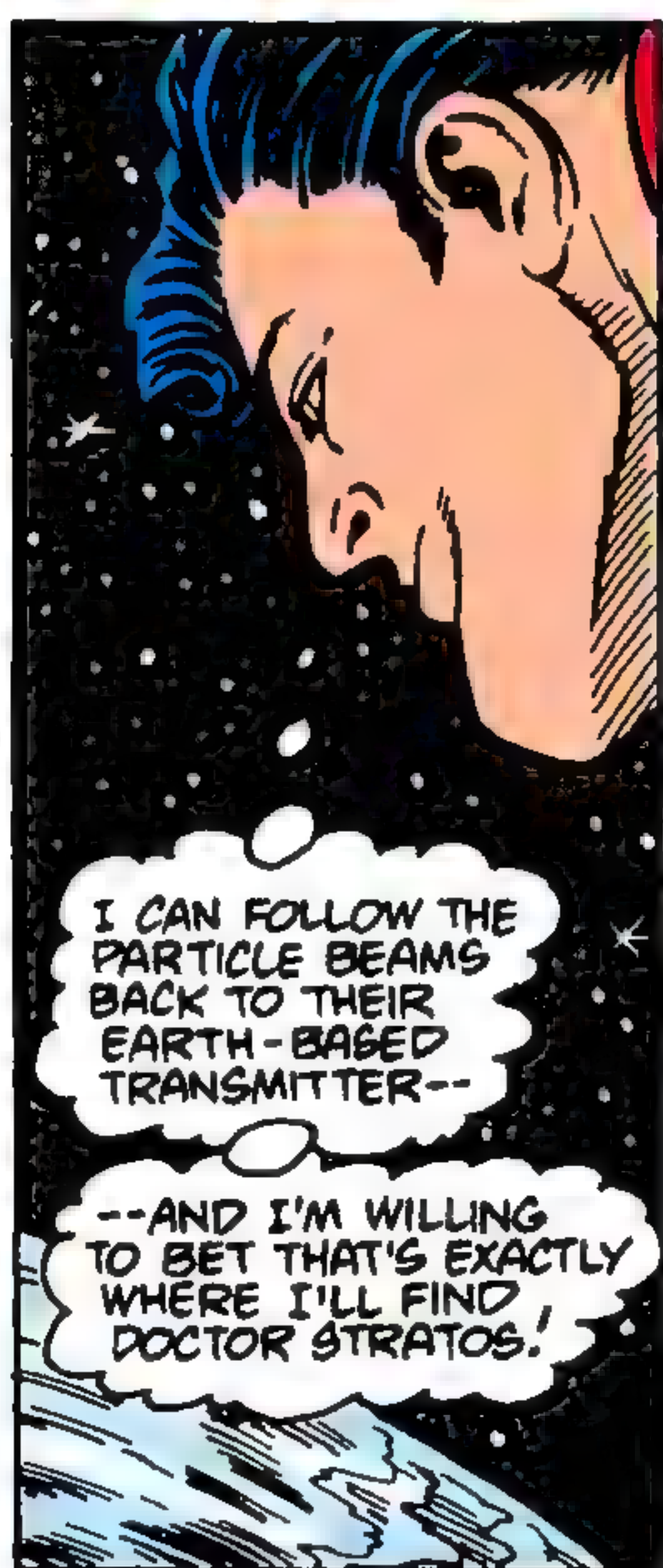
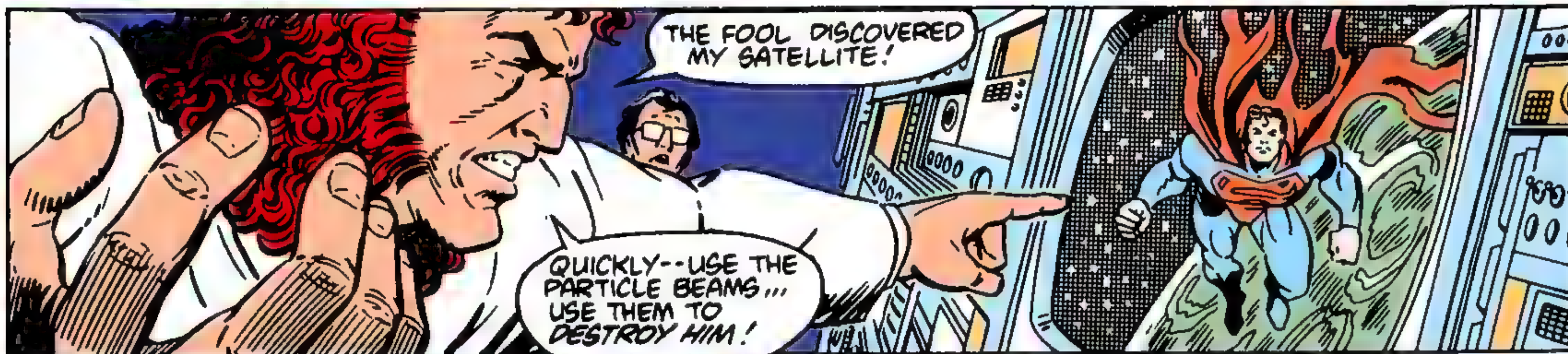
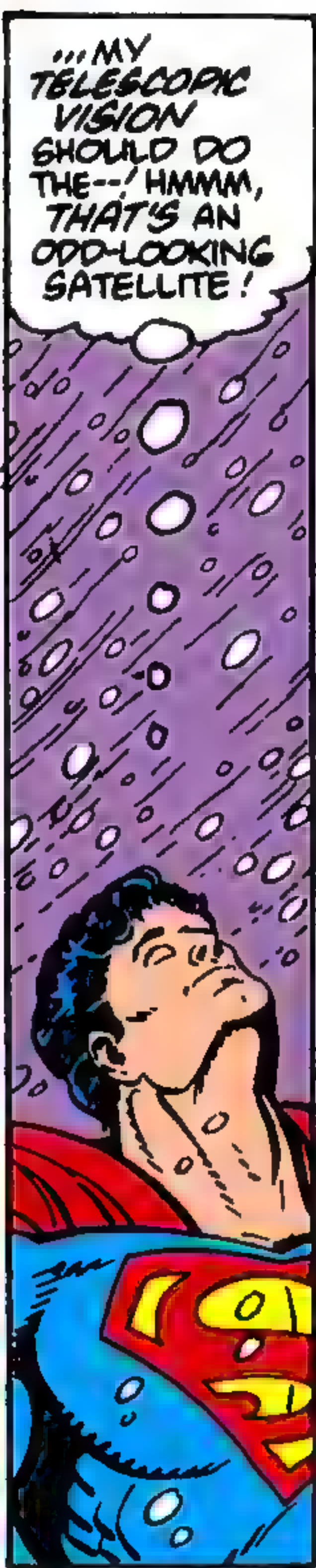
AND I SUPPOSE THAT'S THE PLAN!

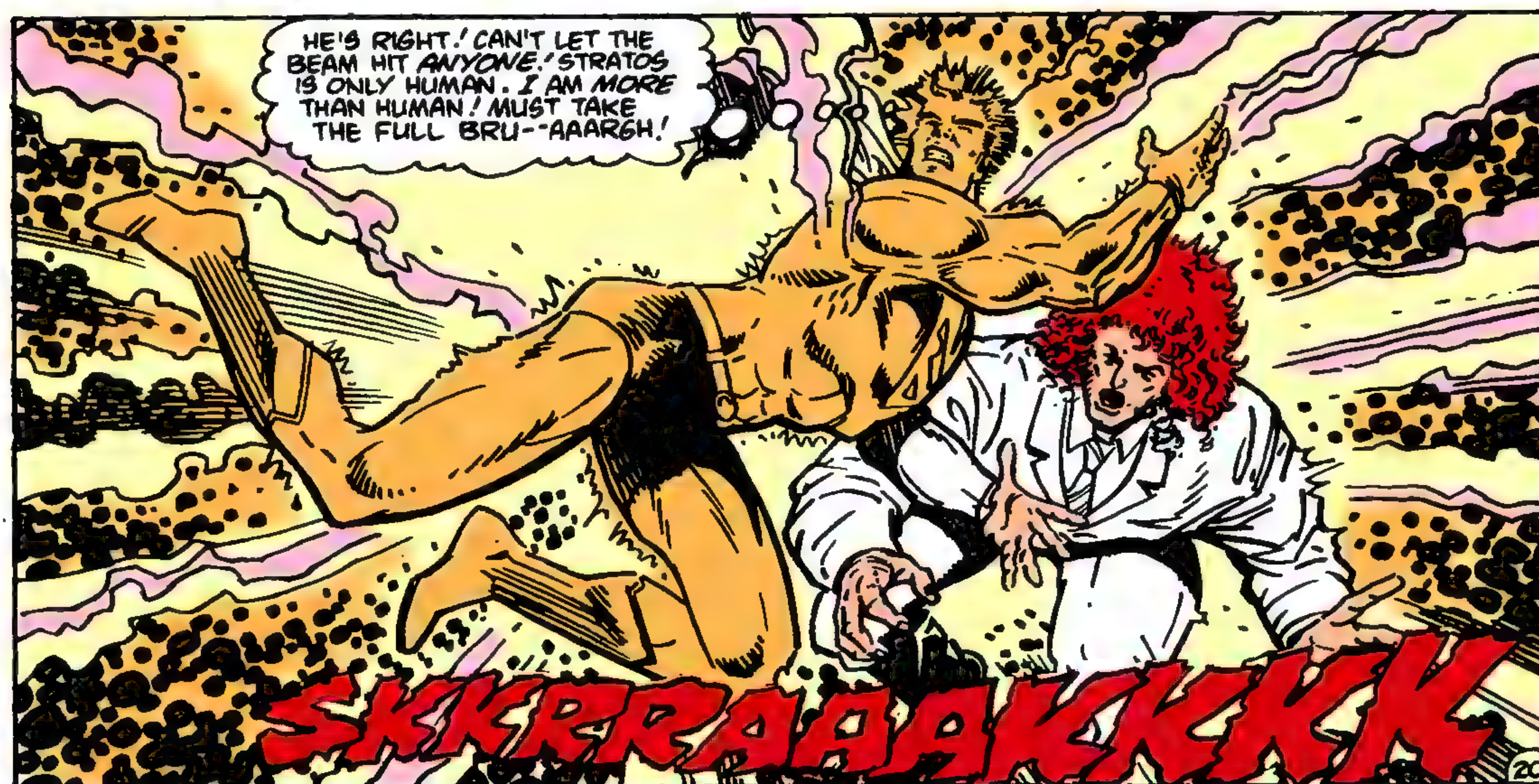
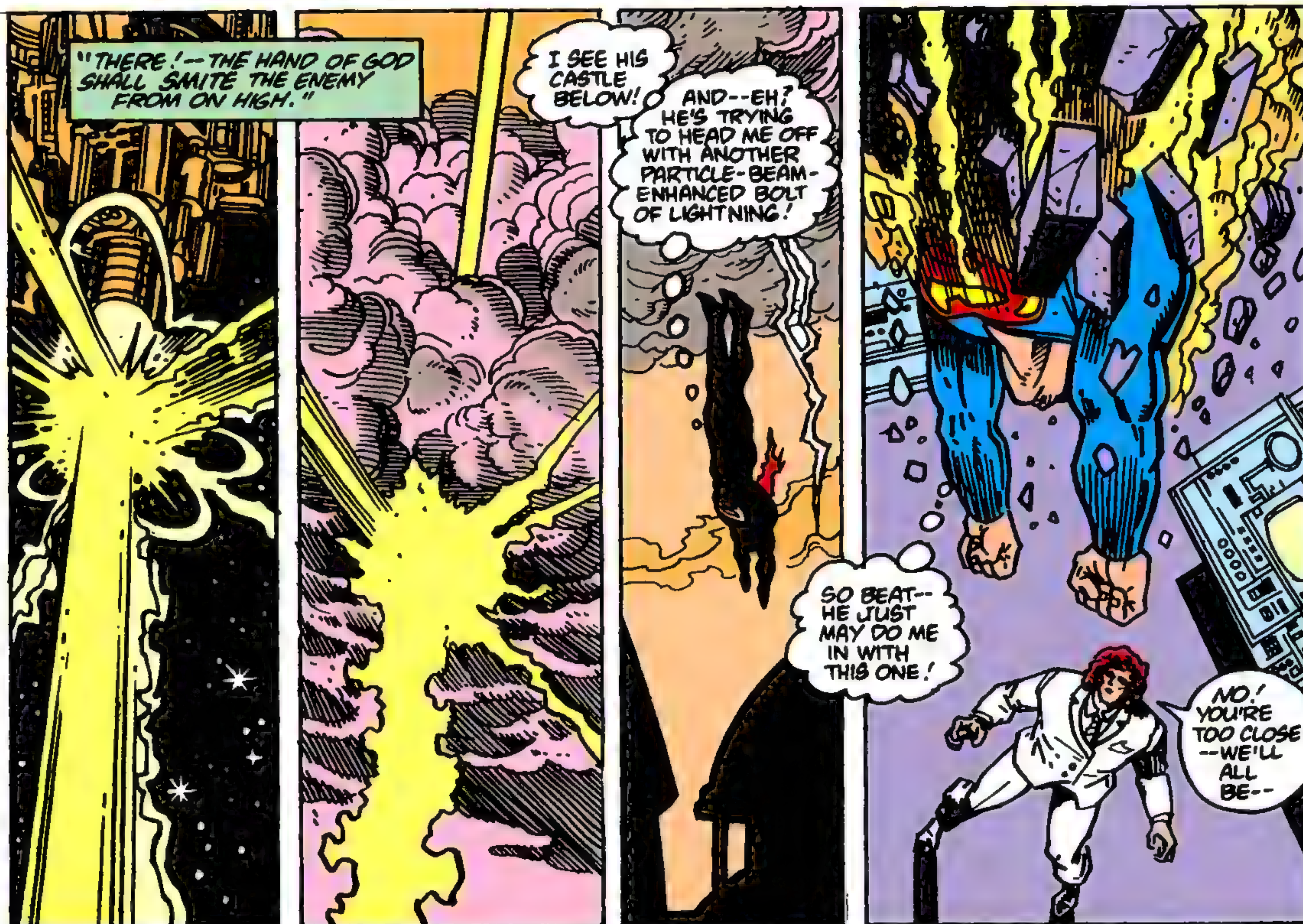
BUT HOW IS HE DOING ALL OF THIS?

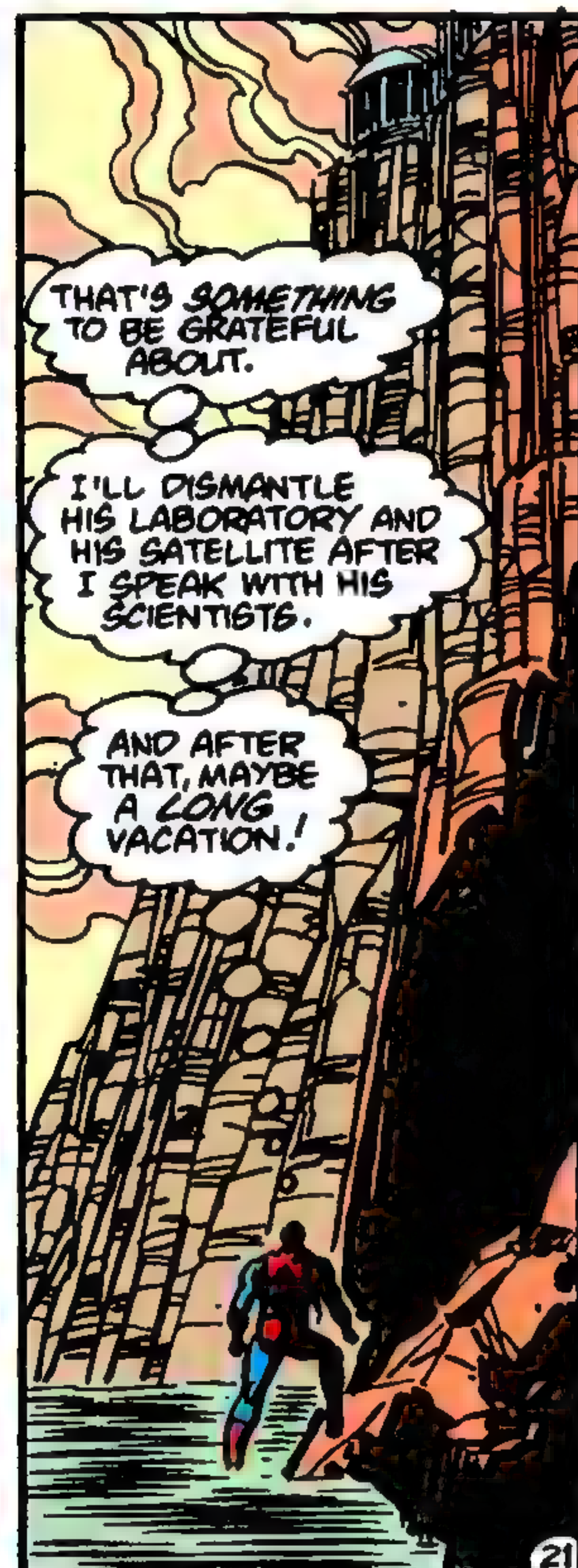
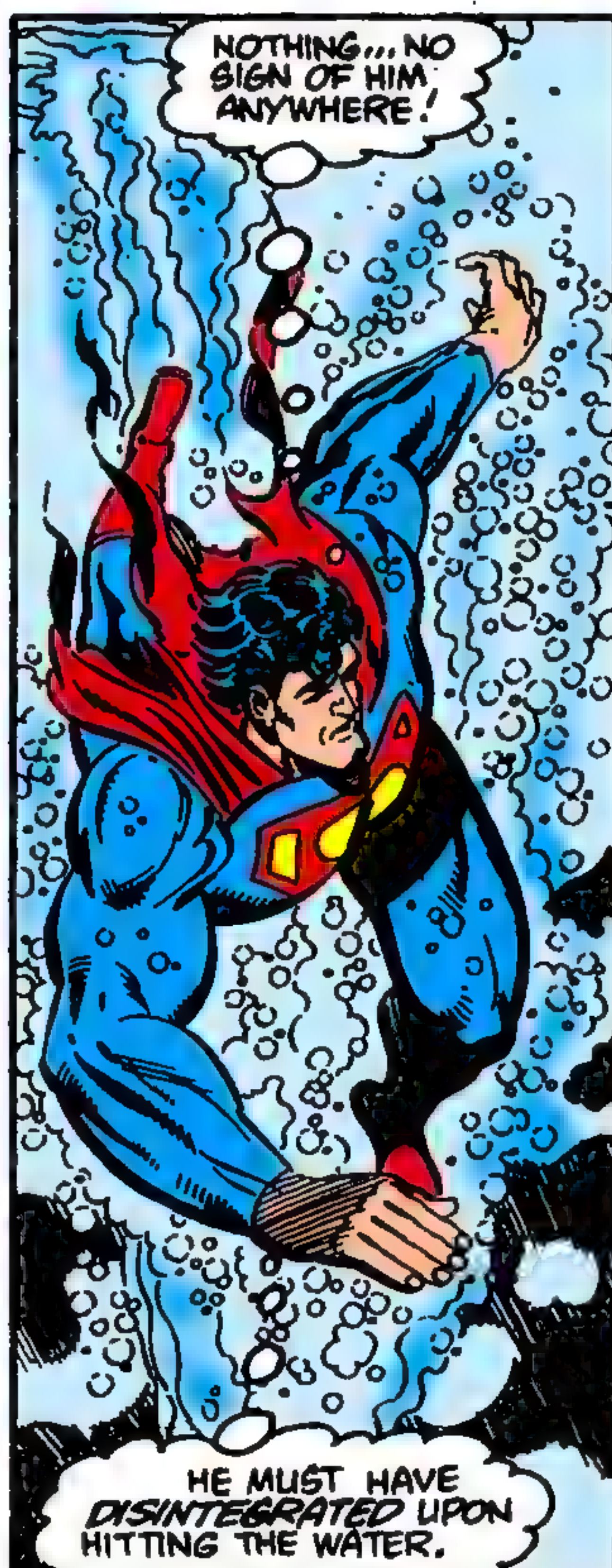
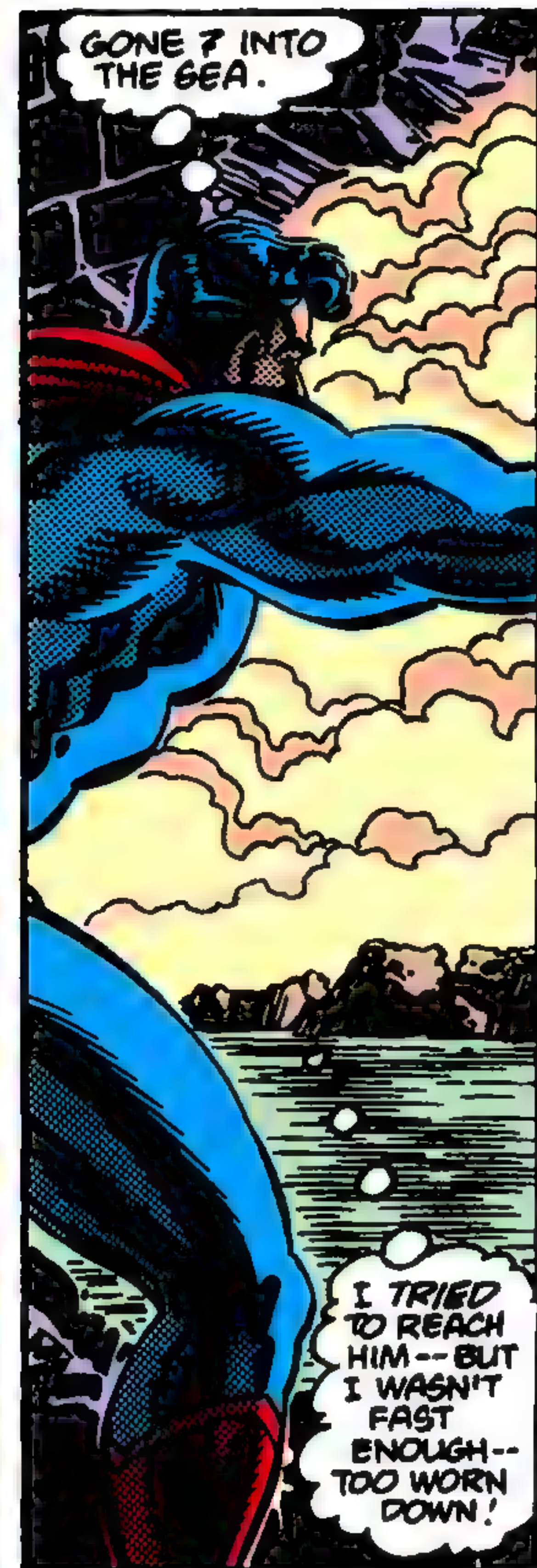
STRATOS' BACKGROUND IN COMPUTER SCIENCES MIGHT SUGGEST THAT HE'S COME UP WITH SOME KIND OF MACHINE OR TRANSMITTER THAT CAN DISRUPT WEATHER CONDITIONS.

BUT THAT STILL DOESN'T EXPLAIN HOW HE CAN AFFECT SO MANY DIFFERENT PLACES ON EARTH THAT ARE SO FAR APART--!

UNLESS...







EPilogue

DAYS LATER... THE AEGEAN SEA... A CALM BEFORE THE STORM.

ITS WATERS GLOW WITH AN UNFAMILIAR WARMTH FROM BELOW.

THEN COMES THE BOILING ENERGY...

THE FROTHING POWER...

AND THE SEAS FAIRLY PART WITH A FIRE BORN NOT ON FABLED OLYMPUS...

... BUT IN THE BURNING DEPTHS OF HELL!

IT IS AS I HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN.

THE POWER IS NOW INSIDE ME...

I HAVE CLAIMED MY PROPER DESTINY!

THE HUMAN DOCTOR STRATOS IS GONE!

NOW STRATOS, THE GOD, WALKS THE EARTH!

AND STRATOS WILL RETURN FOR HIS DUE, NOT TOMORROW OR THE NEXT DAY, BUT IT IS INEVITABLE! AND ON THAT DAY, SUPERMAN SHALL DIE!

THAT IS HIS DESTINY.

NEXT
ISSUE:

WITHIN THE CITY--A HERO!

SUPERMAN[®]

Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

TO LAUGH AND DIE IN METROPOLIS

John Byrne
Story & Pencils

Karl Kesel
inks

John Costanza
Letters

TOM ZIUKO
Colors

Michael Carlin & Andrew Helfer
Editing

...WGBS AND
IT'S EIGHTY-FIVE
DEGREES ON A
TUESDAY AFTERNOON
IN METROPOLIS...

OH...
MY...
GAWD!

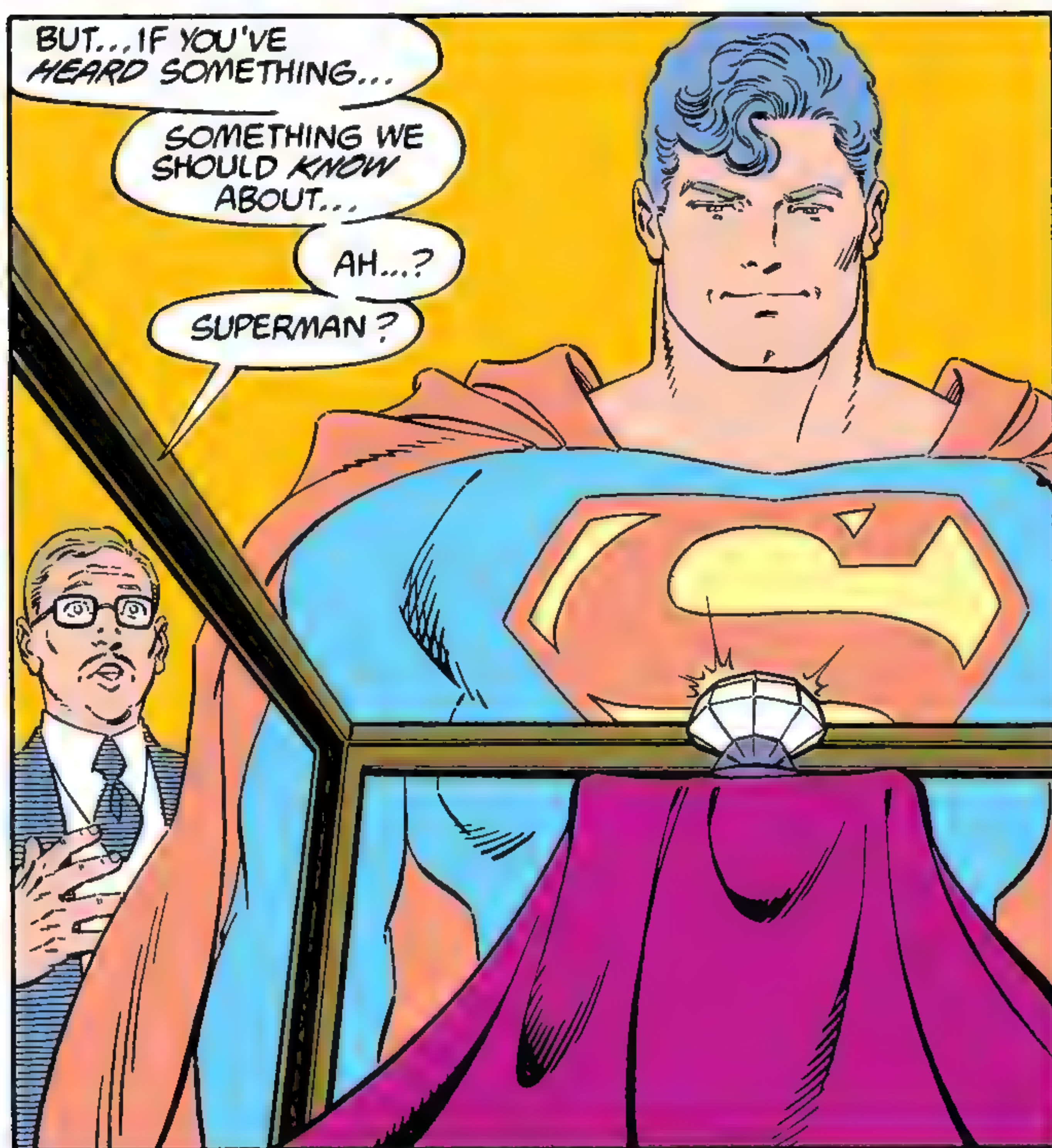
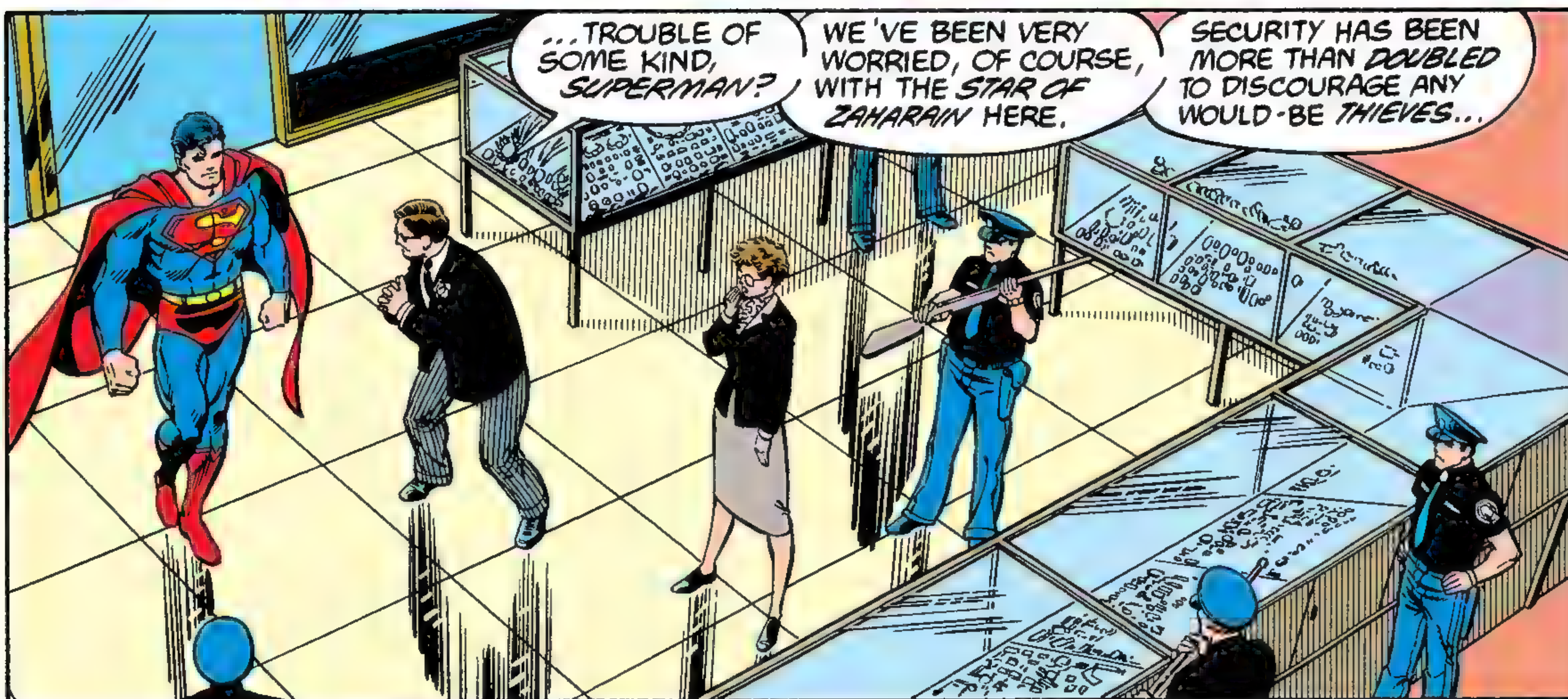
IT'S
HIM!

IT'S
REALLY
HIM!

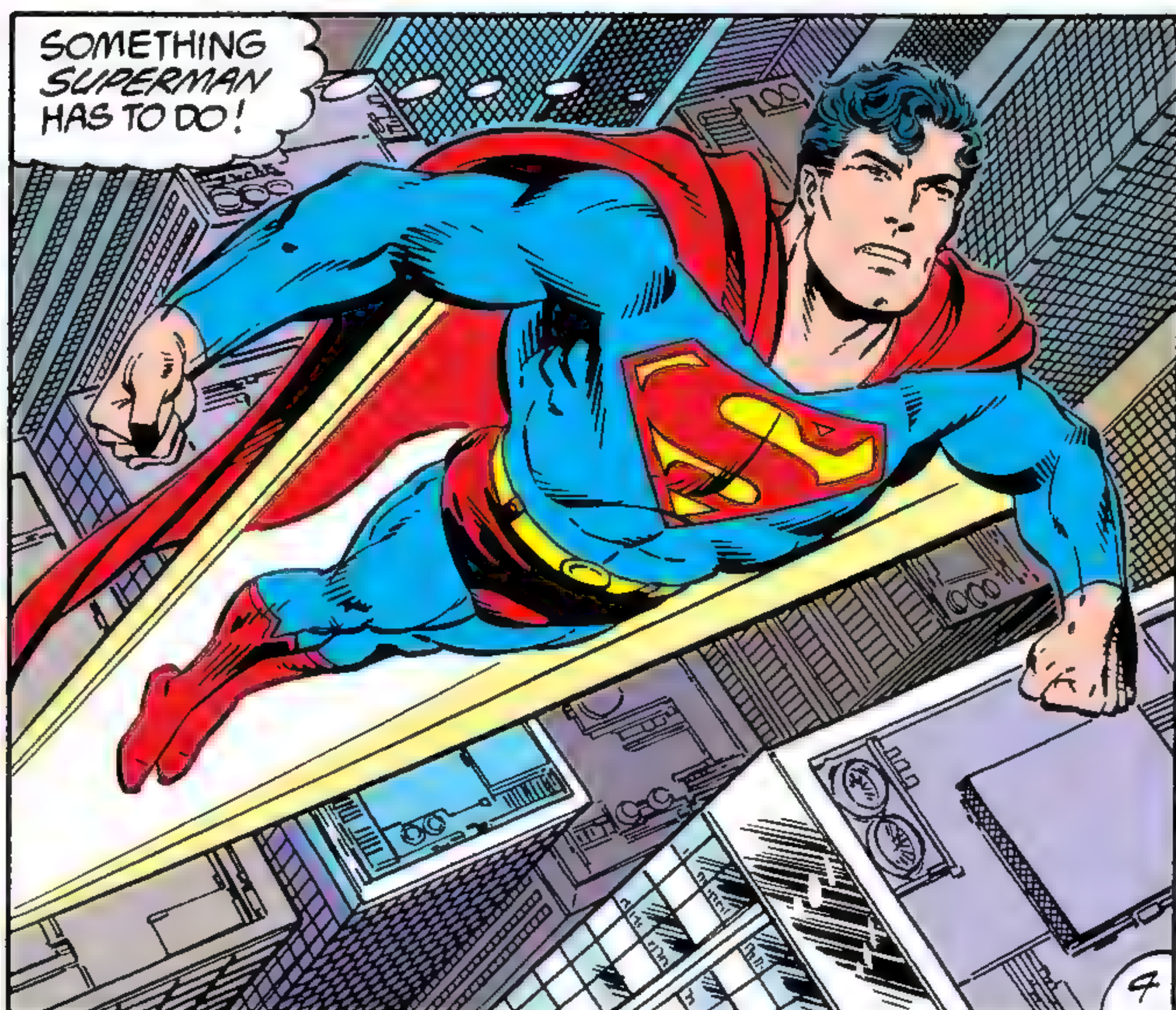
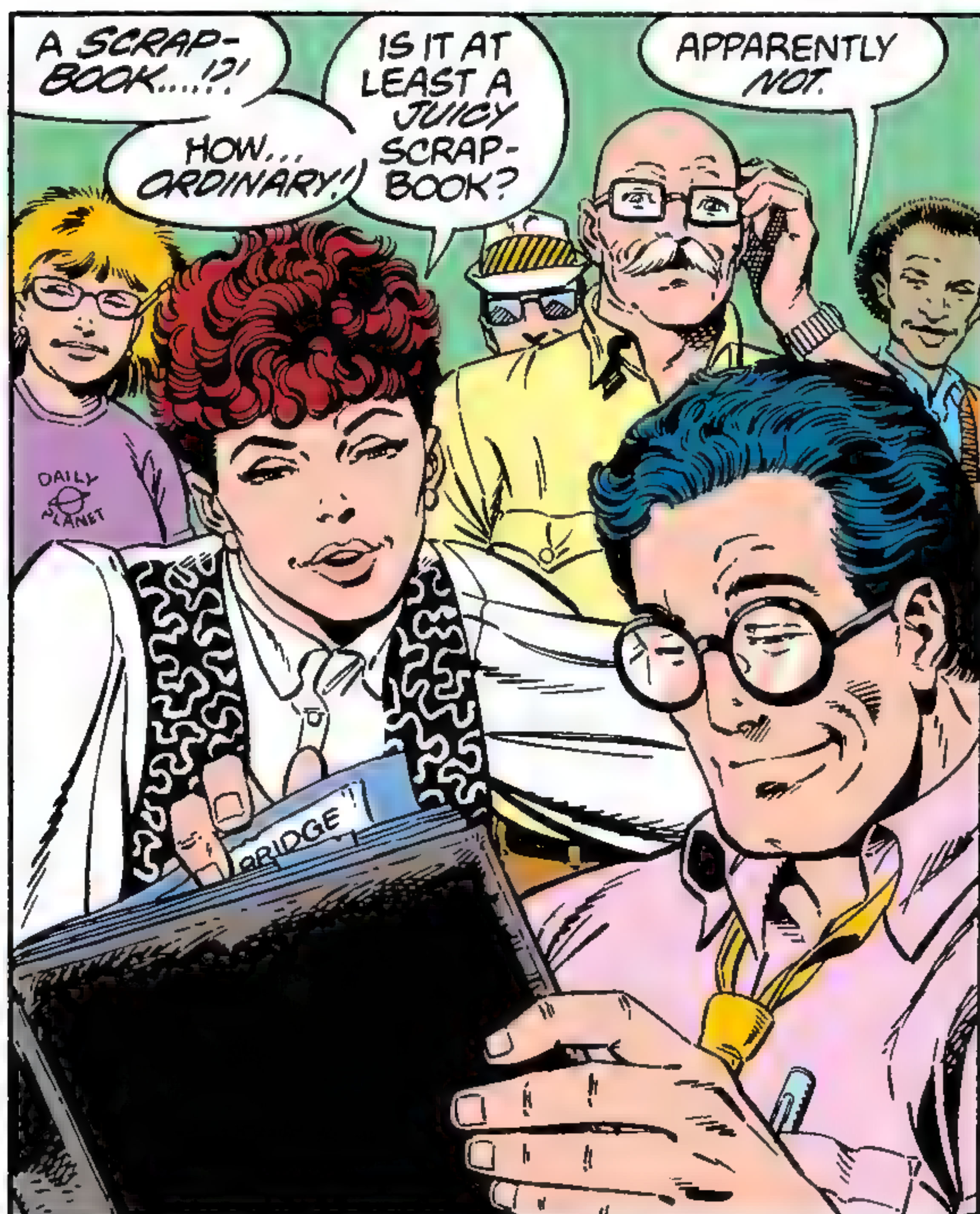
GEEZ...MY KID'LL
KILL ME IF I DON'T
GET HIS
AUTOGRAPH!

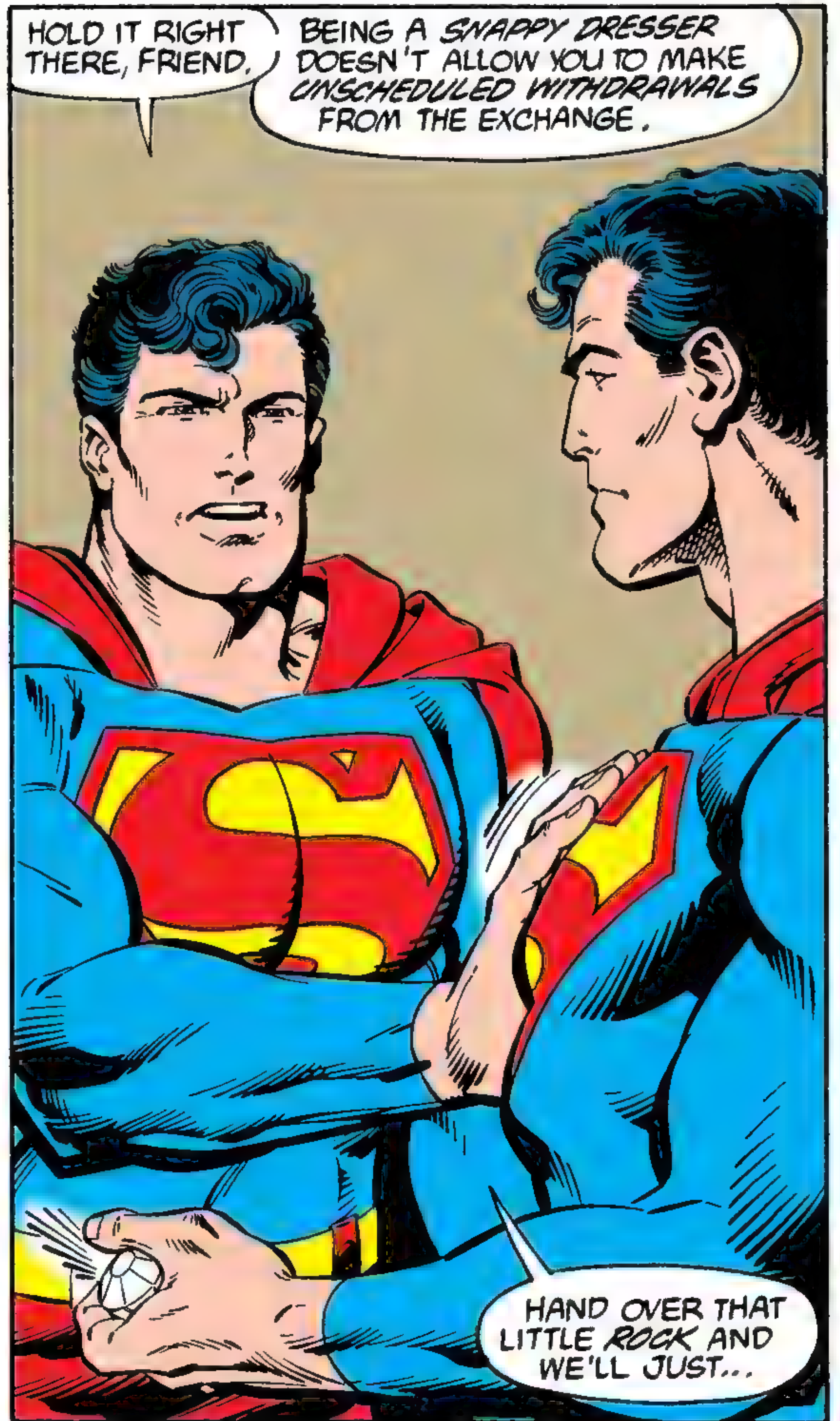
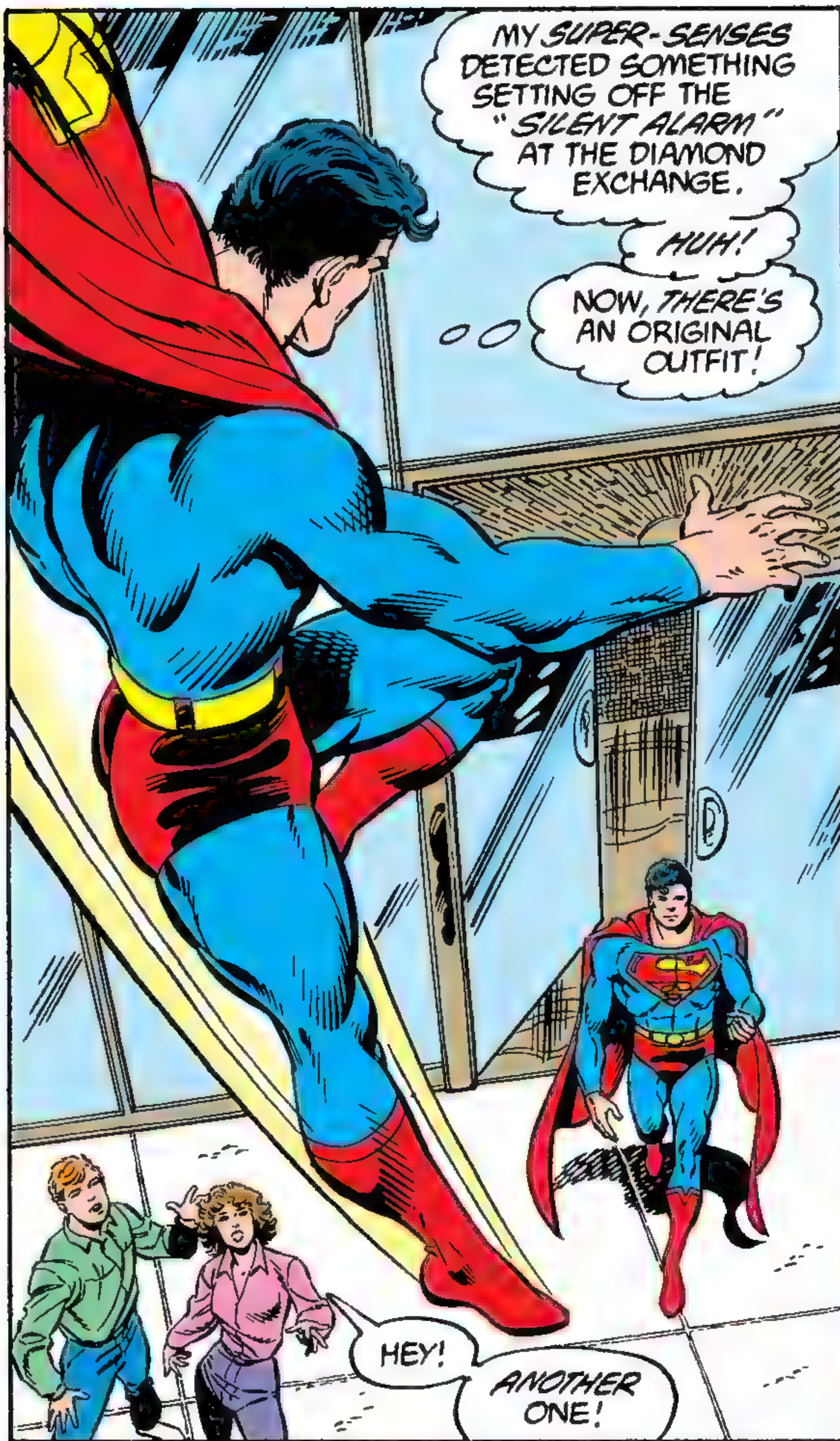
IS IT
REALLY
HIM, D'YA THINK?
I THOUGHT HE
FLEW EVERY-
WHERE!

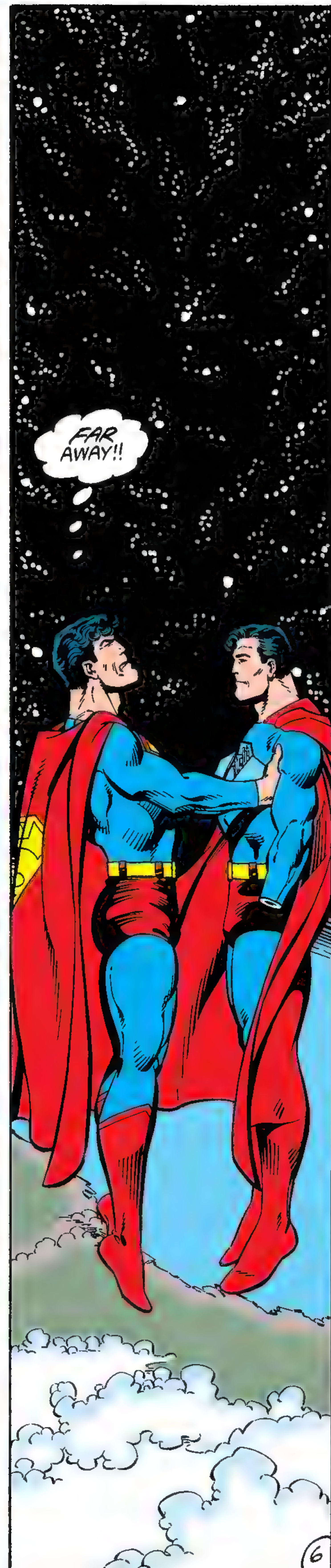
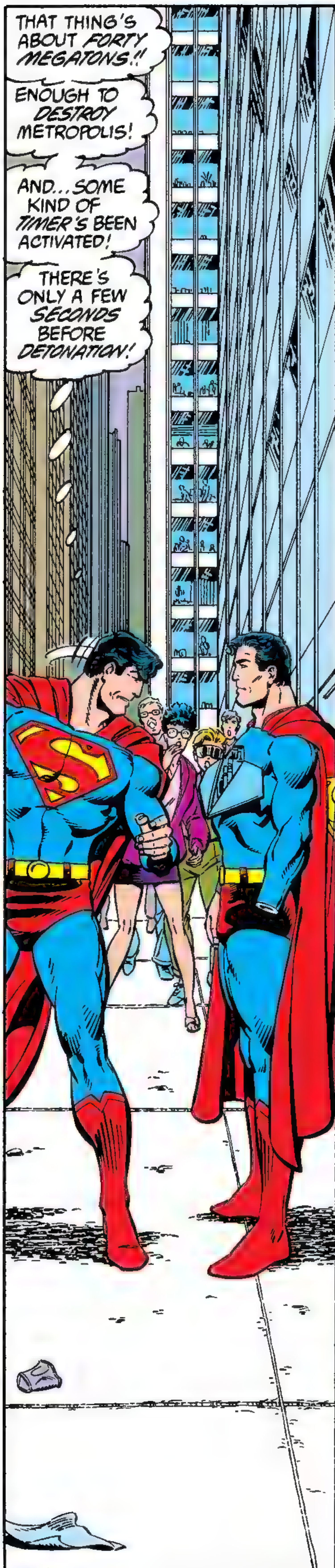


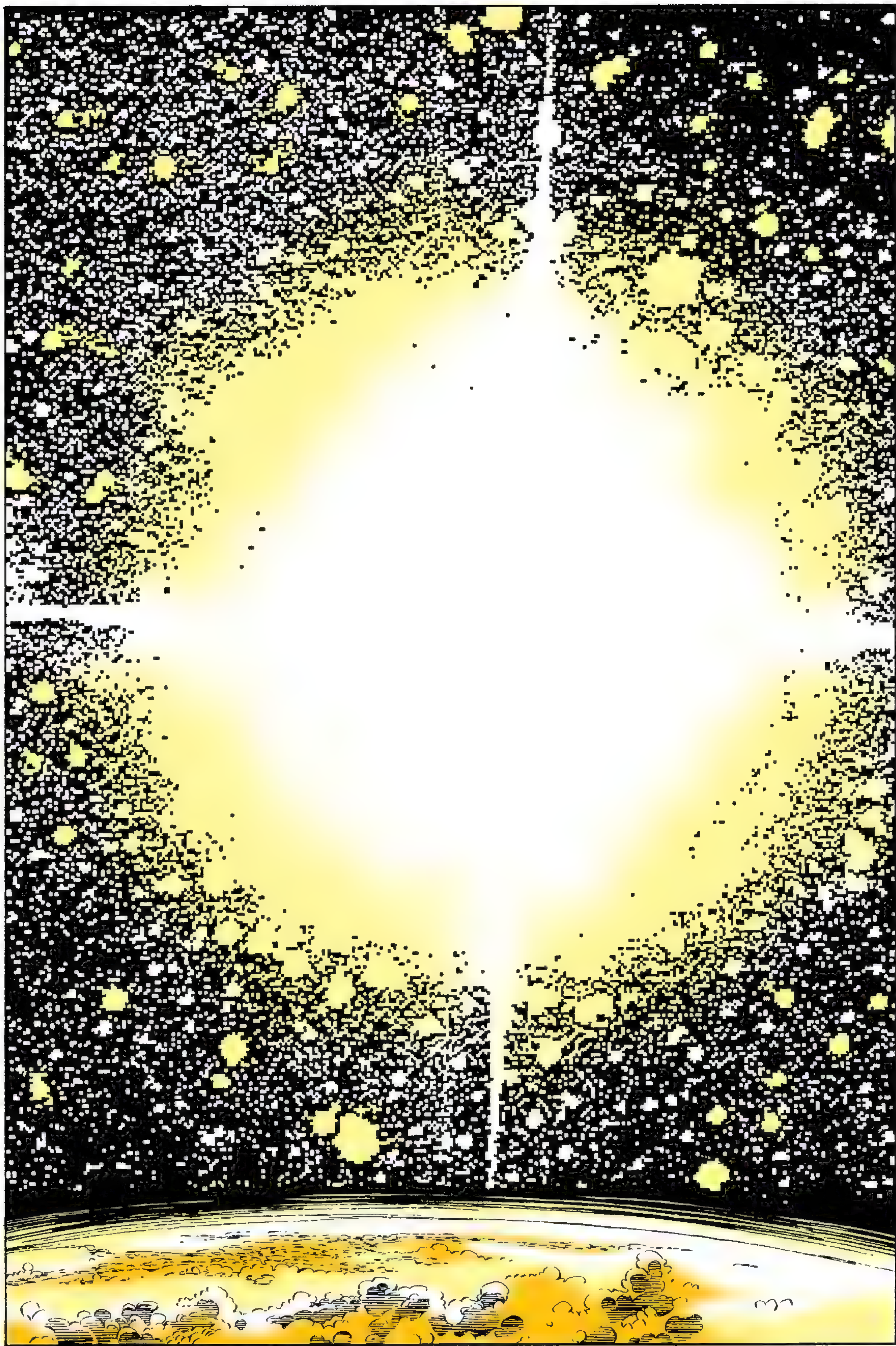


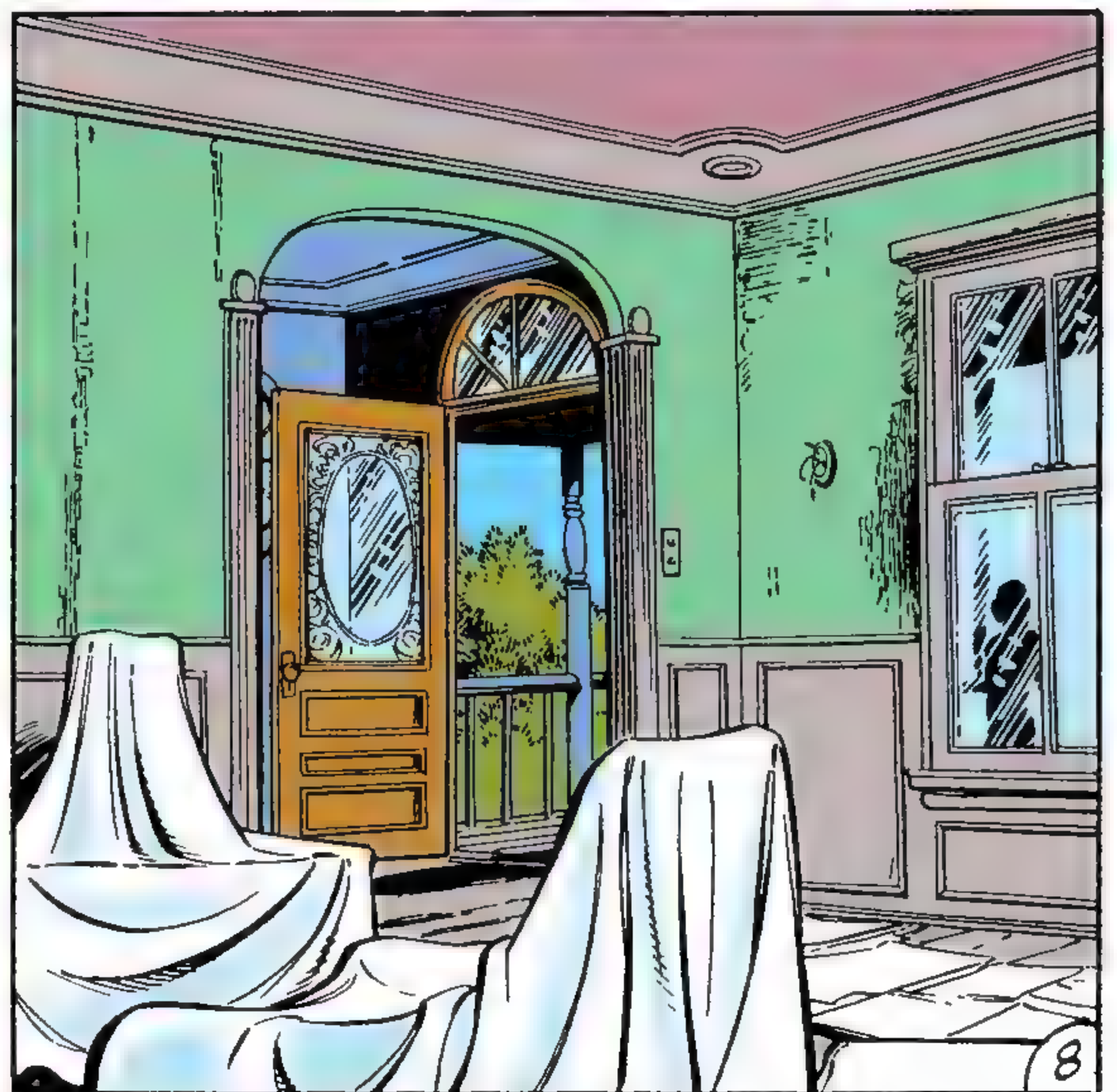
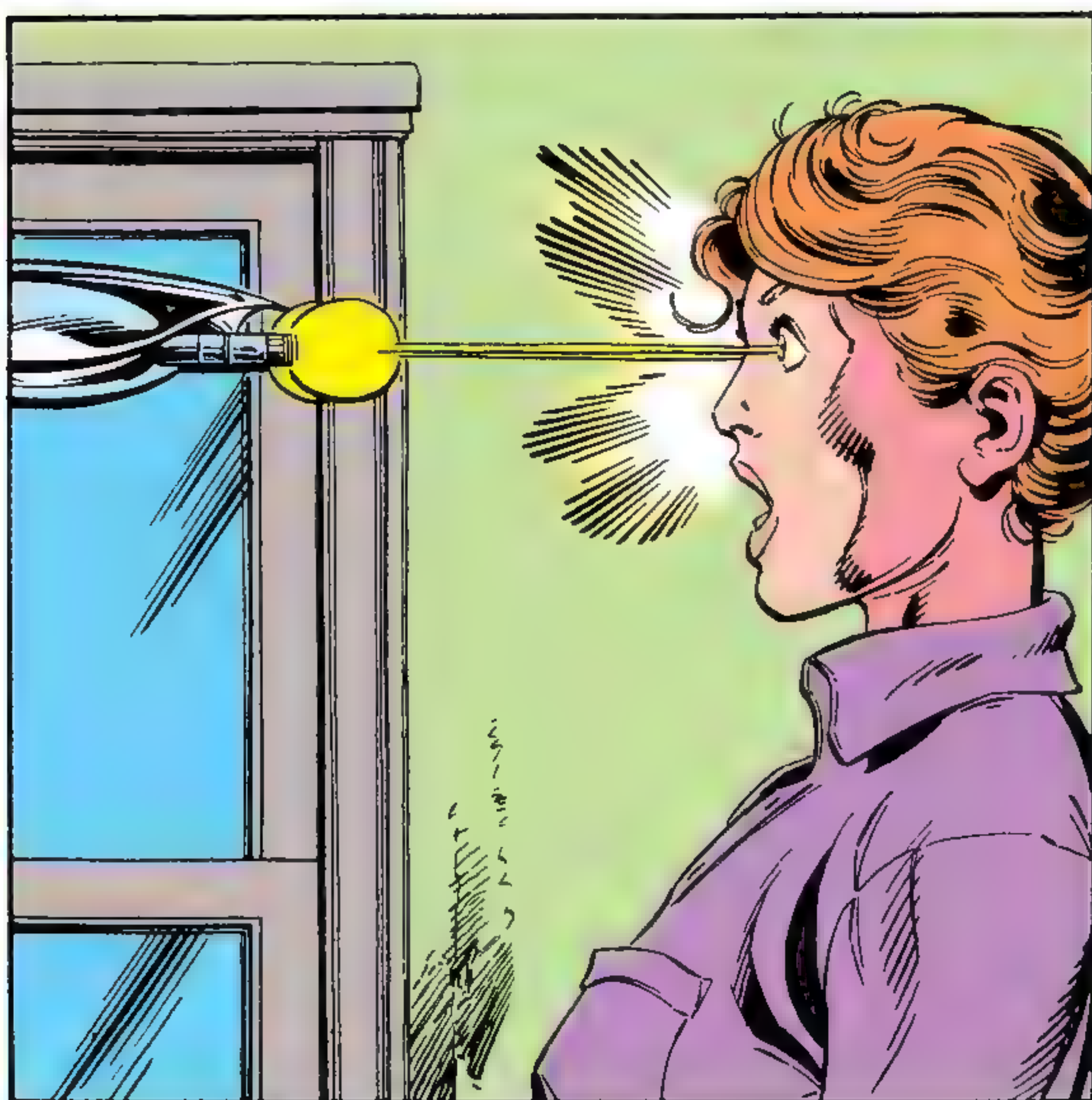
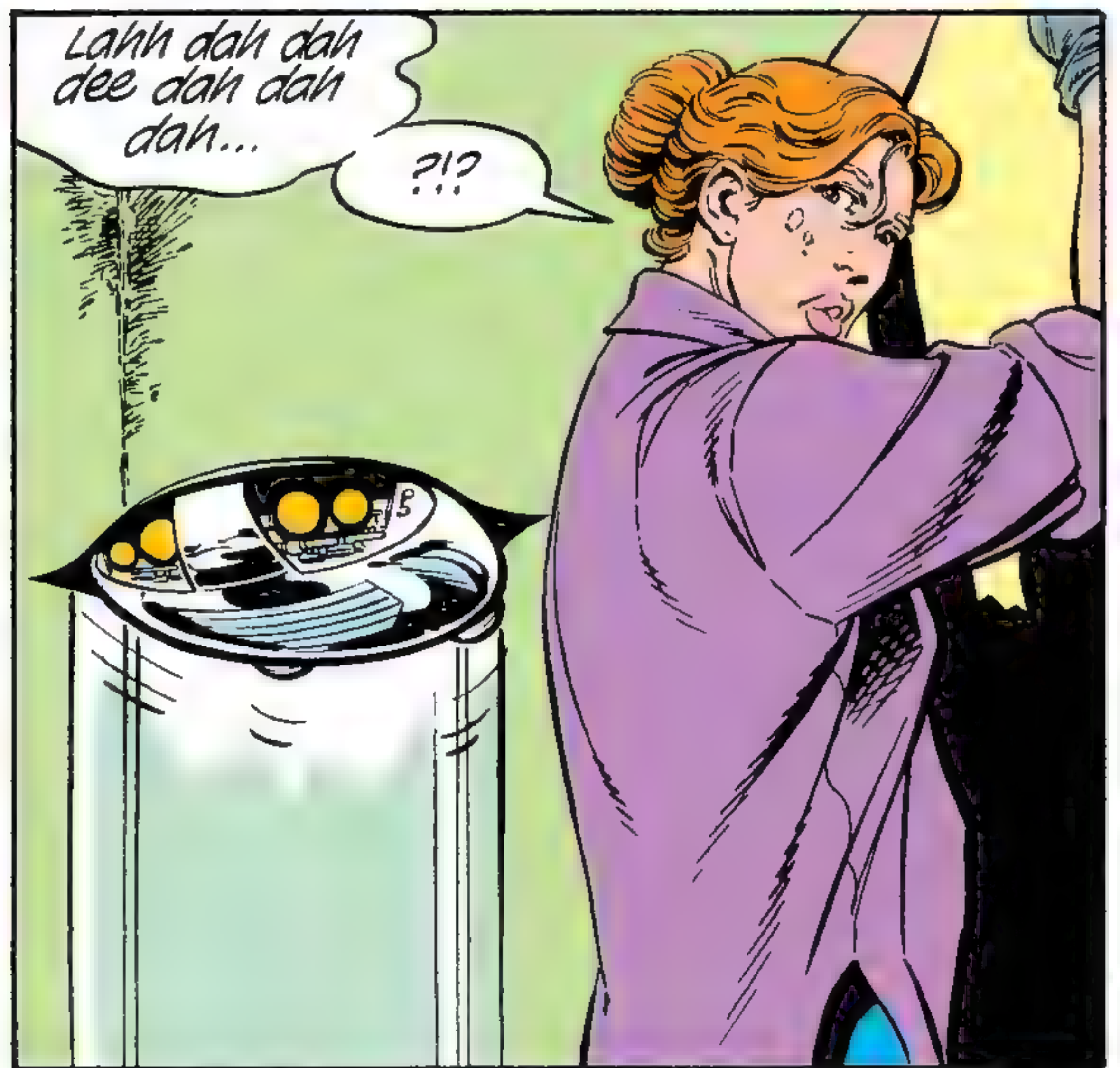
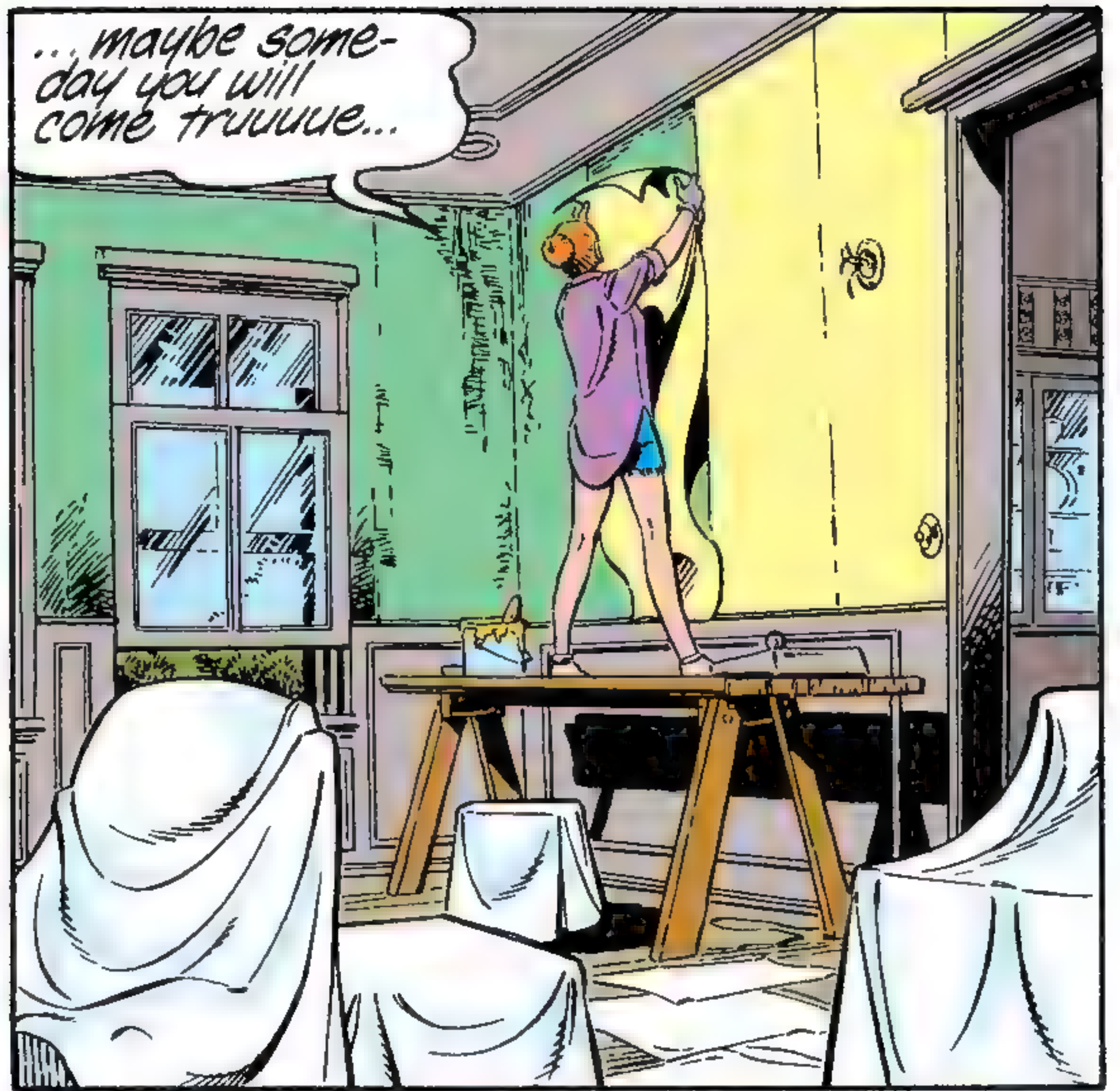
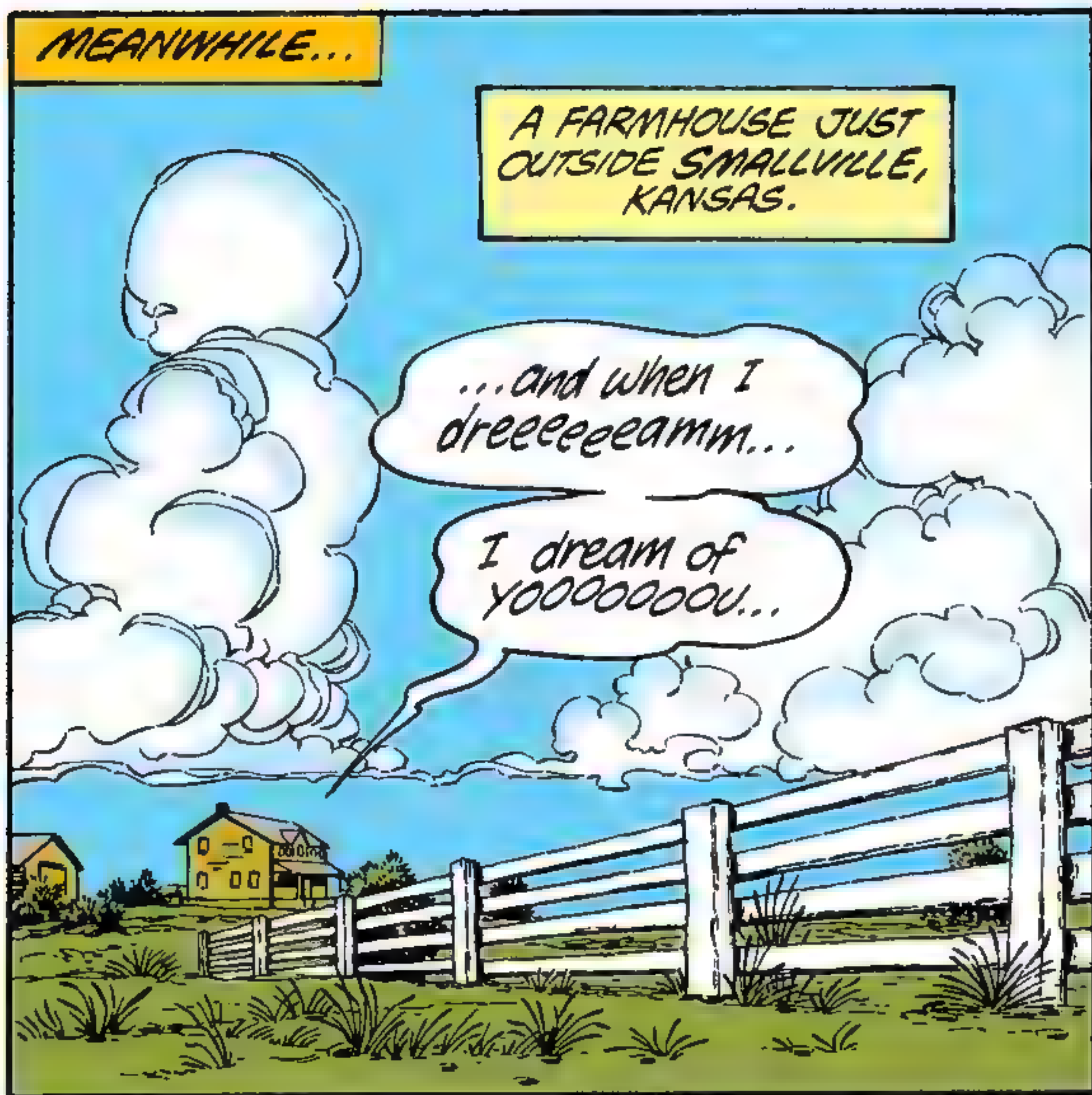






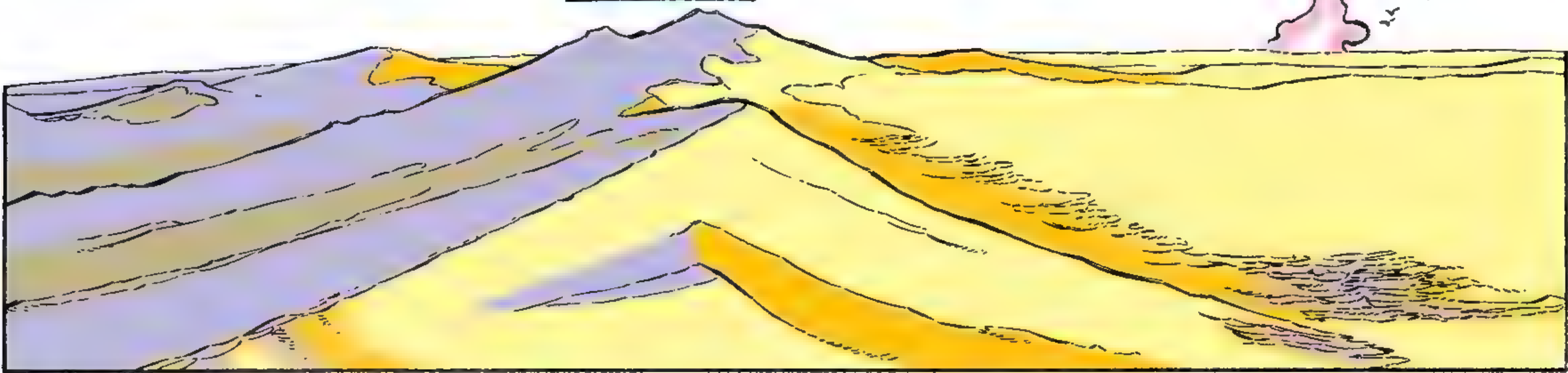




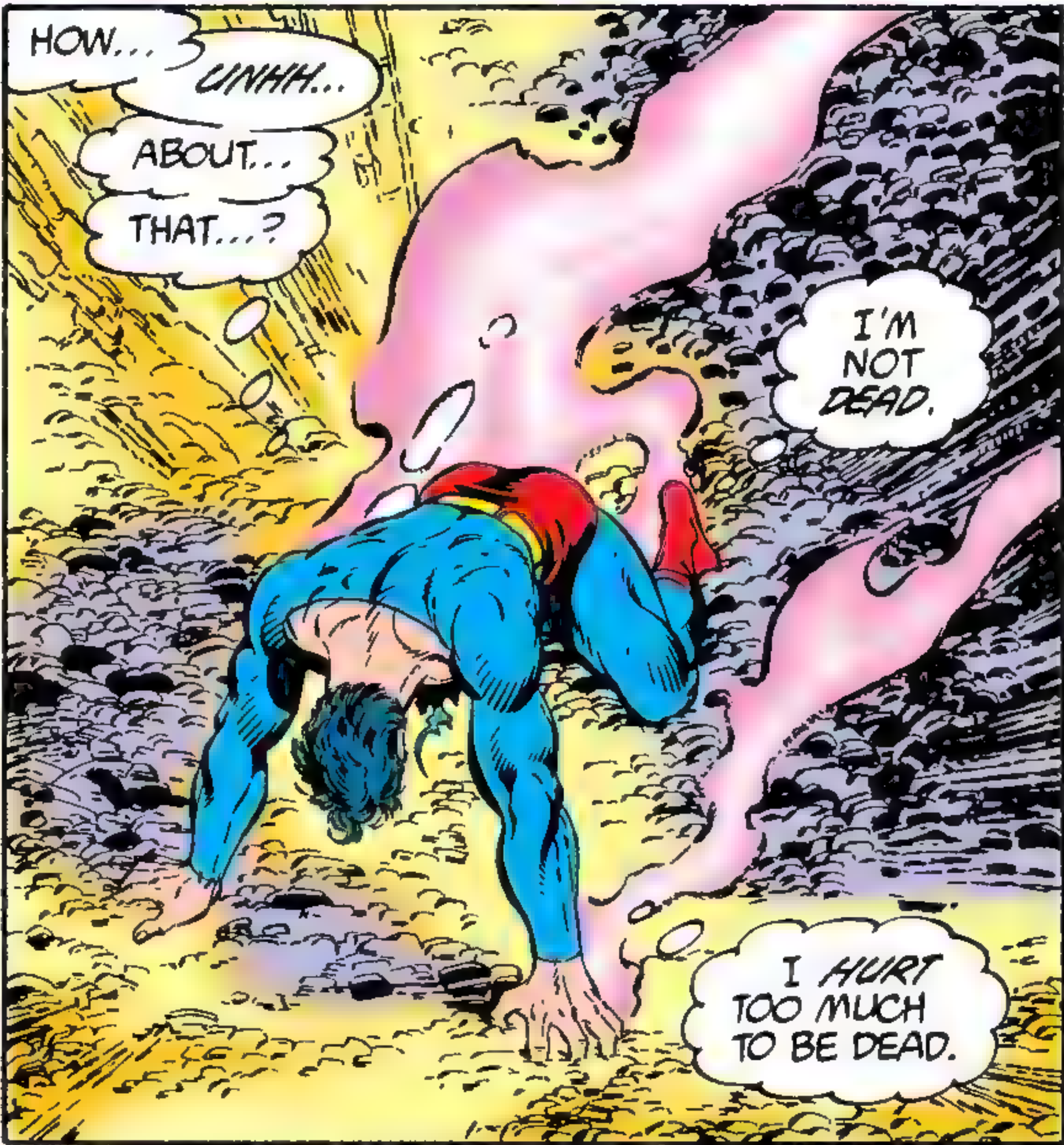


THIRTY MINUTES LATER...

THE GREAT
MOJAVE
DESERT...



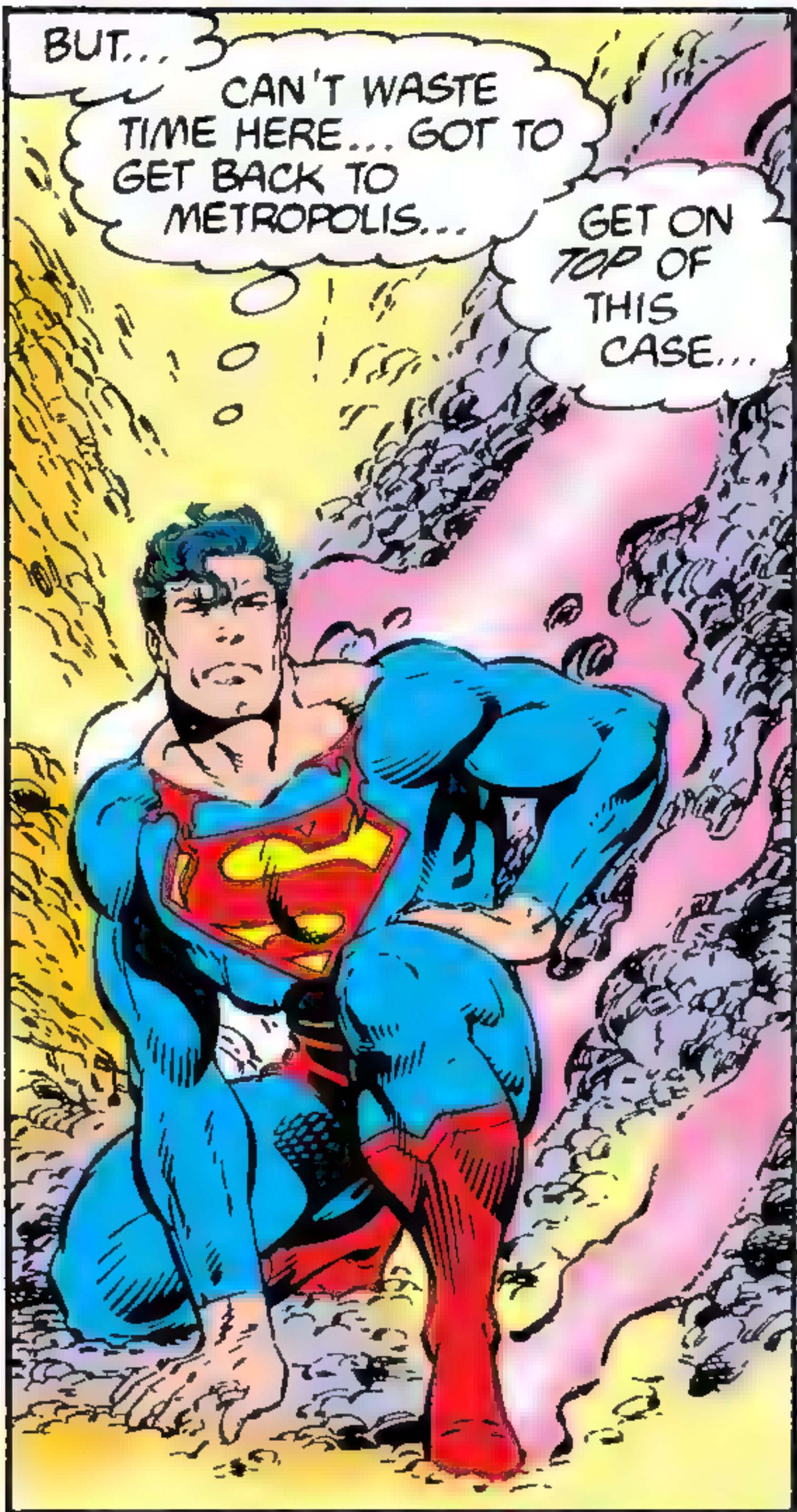
UH-UHHHHH-H



HOW... UHHH...
ABOUT...
THAT...?

I'M
NOT
DEAD.

I HURT
TOO MUCH
TO BE DEAD.

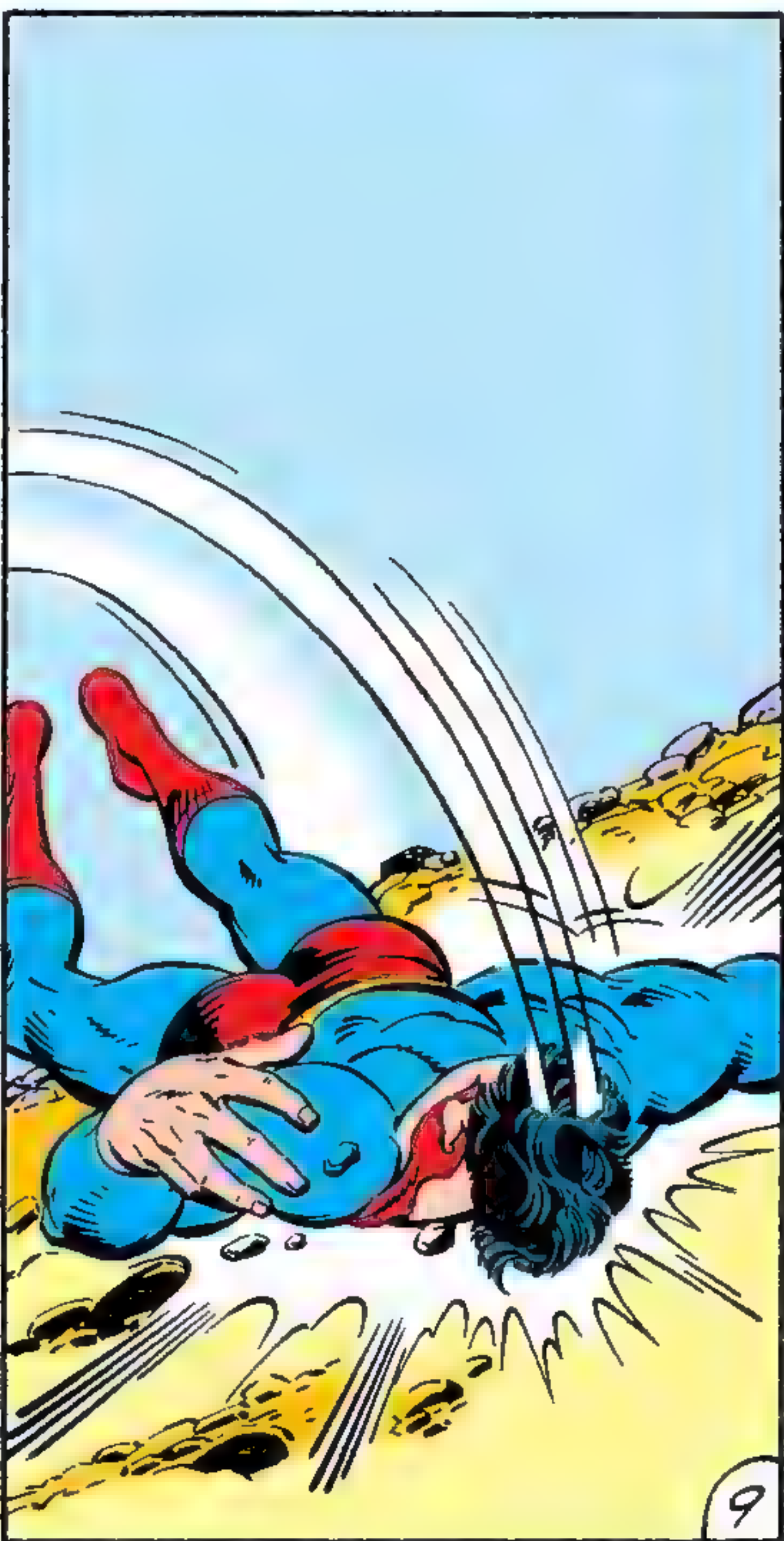


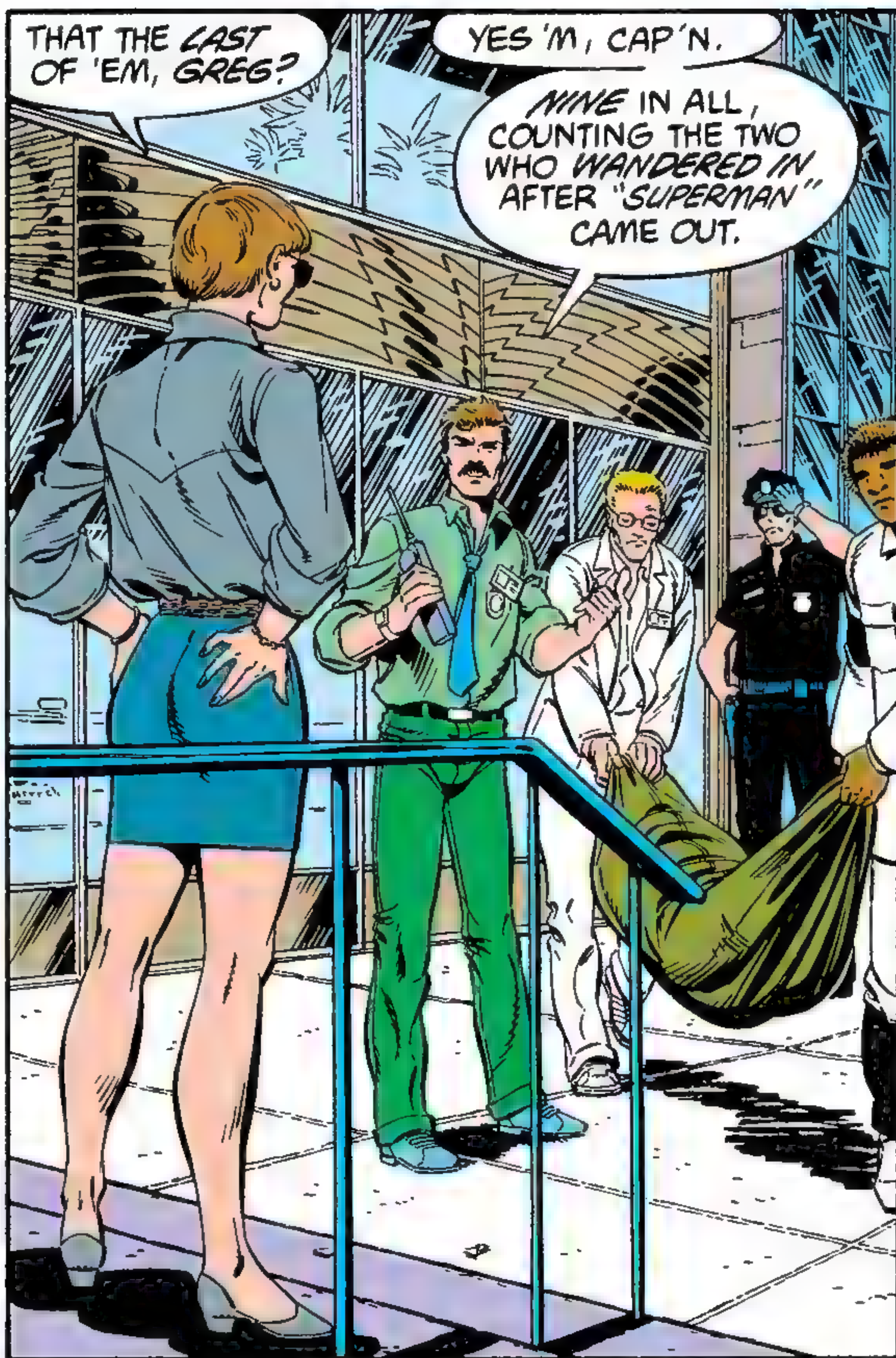
BUT...
CAN'T WASTE
TIME HERE... GOT TO
GET BACK TO
METROPOLIS...

GET ON
TOP OF
THIS
CASE...



SO... UP, UP AND...





THAT THE LAST OF 'EM, GREG?

YES 'M, CAP'N.

NINE IN ALL, COUNTING THE TWO WHO WANDERED IN AFTER "SUPERMAN" CAME OUT.



NINE DEAD...

ALL OF METROPOLIS THREATENED...

AND ALL FOR A LUMP OF CRUSHED COAL THAT ONLY HAS VALUE BECAUSE WE SAY IT DOES.

THE GUY'S AS NUTS AS ALL TH' GOTHAM PAPERS SAY HE IS.

CAPTAIN SAWYER...



CAPTAIN, I'M TOBY RAYNES, FROM THE METROPOLIS STAR.

ISN'T IT UNUSUAL FOR YOUR SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS HEIST?

DON'T YOU USUALLY CONCERN YOURSELF MOSTLY WITH SO-CALLED SUPER-VILLAINS?

WHICH IS JUST WHAT WE SEEM TO BE DEALING WITH HERE, MS. RAYNES.

HOLD THAT LAST BODY FOR A SEC, GREG.

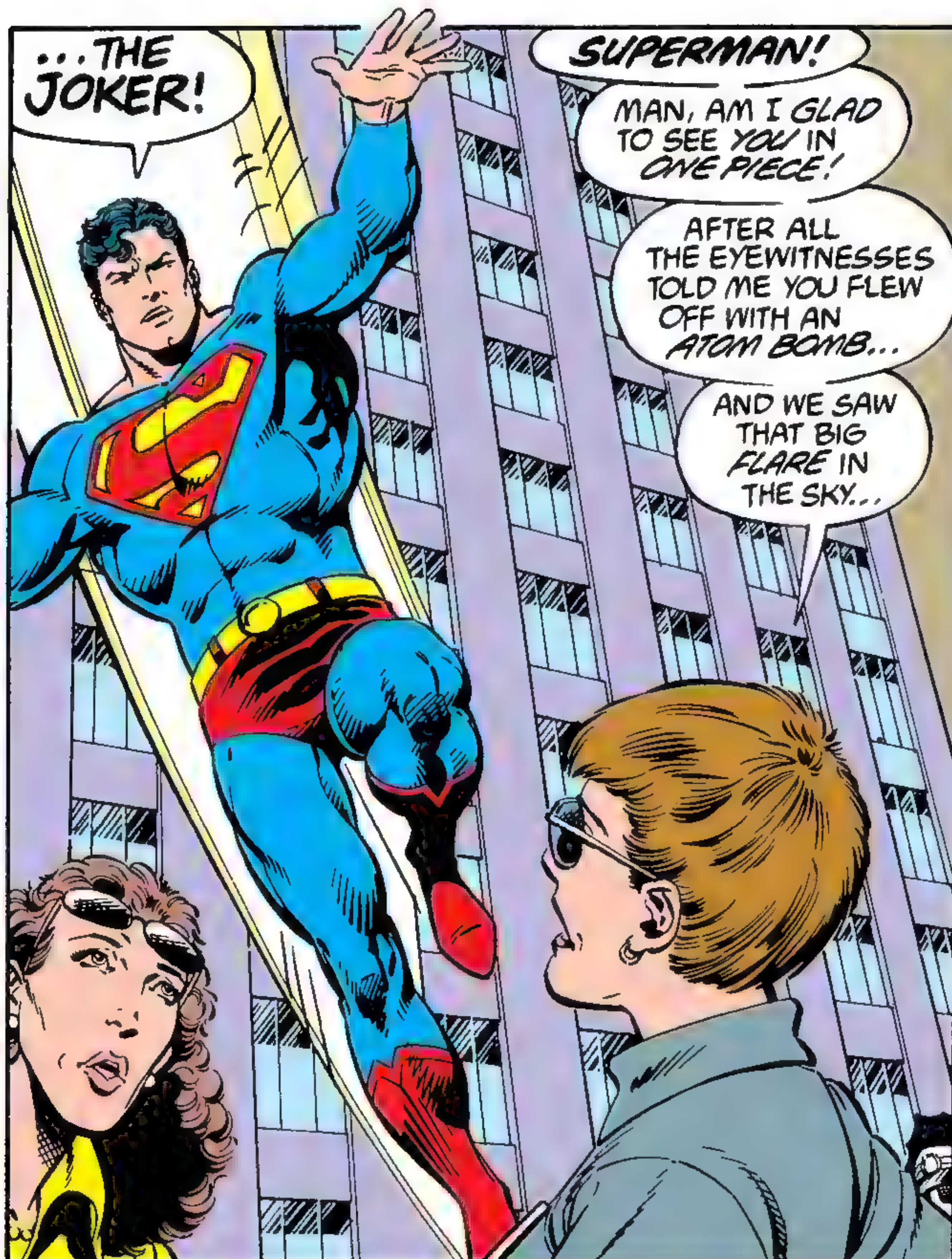
LET 'ER THROUGH, BOYS.



SEE FOR YOURSELF, MS. RAYNES.

THE DISTORTION OF THE FACE IS CAUSED BY THE SAME STUFF THAT KILLED HER.

IN THIS CASE, A GAS THAT CAUSES ALMOST INSTANTANEOUS MUSCULAR CONSTRICTION. KILLS IN ABOUT THIRTY SECONDS, AND LEAVES US WITH THE CALLING CARD OF...



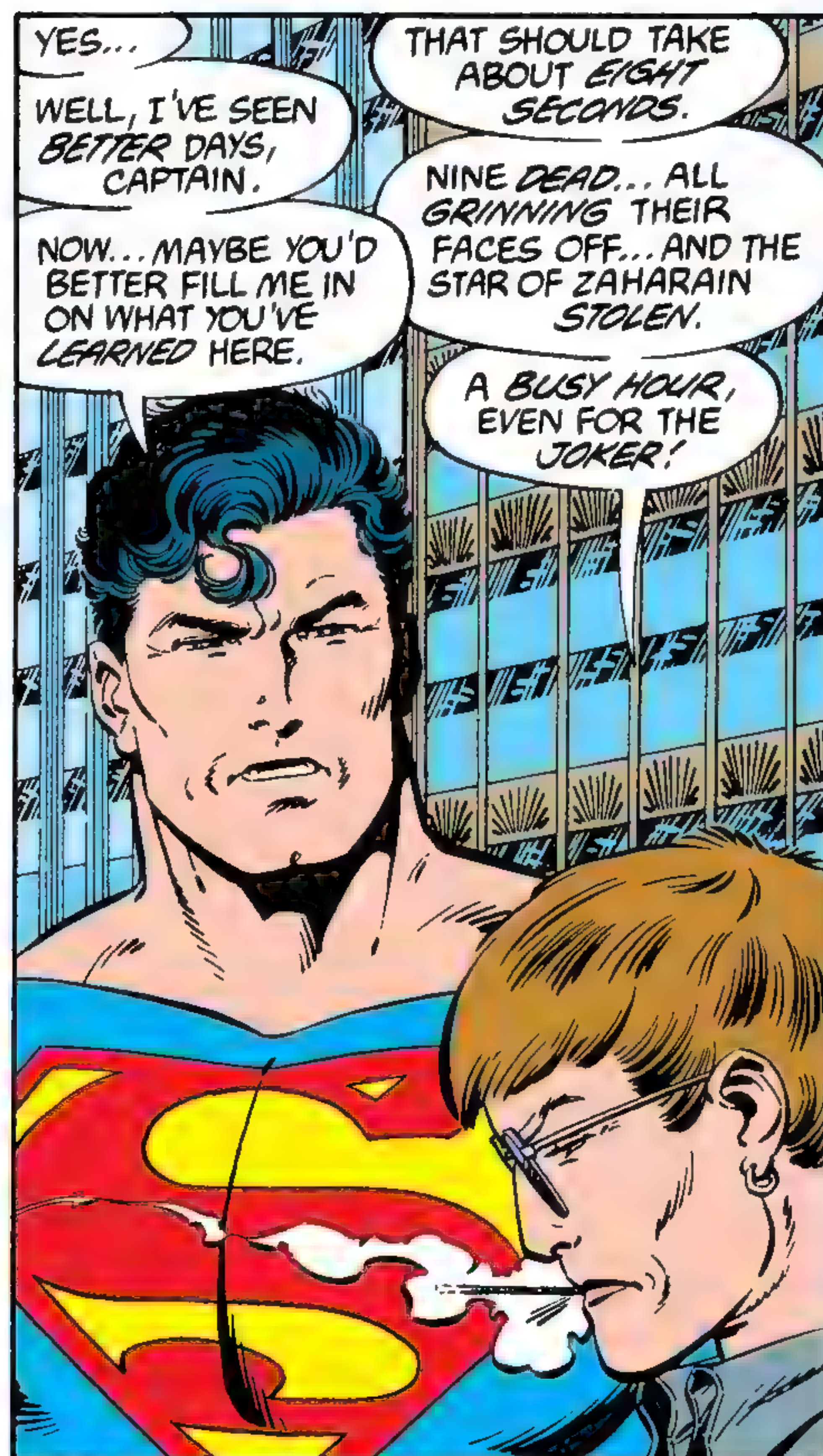
...THE
JOKER!

SUPERMAN!

MAN, AM I GLAD
TO SEE YOU IN
ONE PIECE!

AFTER ALL
THE EYEWITNESSES
TOLD ME YOU FLEW
OFF WITH AN
ATOM BOMB...

AND WE SAW
THAT BIG
FLARE IN
THE SKY...



YES...

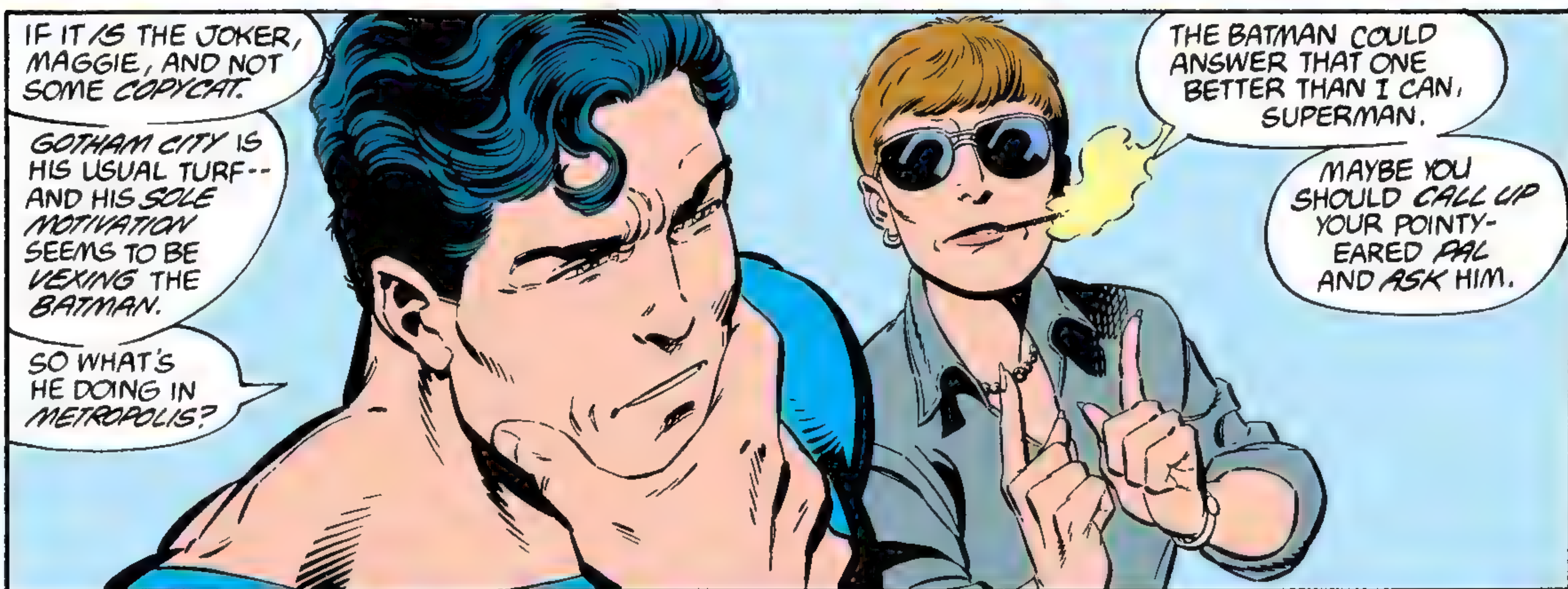
WELL, I'VE SEEN
BETTER DAYS,
CAPTAIN.

NOW... MAYBE YOU'D
BETTER FILL ME IN
ON WHAT YOU'VE
LEARNED HERE.

THAT SHOULD TAKE
ABOUT EIGHT
SECONDS.

NINE DEAD... ALL
GRINNING THEIR
FACES OFF... AND THE
STAR OF ZAHARAIN
STOLEN.

A BUSY HOUR,
EVEN FOR THE
JOKER!



IF IT *IS* THE JOKER,
MAGGIE, AND NOT
SOME COPYCAT.

GOTHAM CITY IS
HIS USUAL TURF--
AND HIS SOLE
MOTIVATION
SEEMS TO BE
VEXING THE
BATMAN.

SO WHAT'S
HE DOING IN
METROPOLIS?

THE BATMAN COULD
ANSWER THAT ONE
BETTER THAN I CAN,
SUPERMAN.

MAYBE YOU
SHOULD CALL UP
YOUR POINTY-
EARED PAL
AND ASK HIM.



MM... UNFORTUNATELY
HE AND I ARE NOT
EXACTLY "PALS,"
MARGARET.

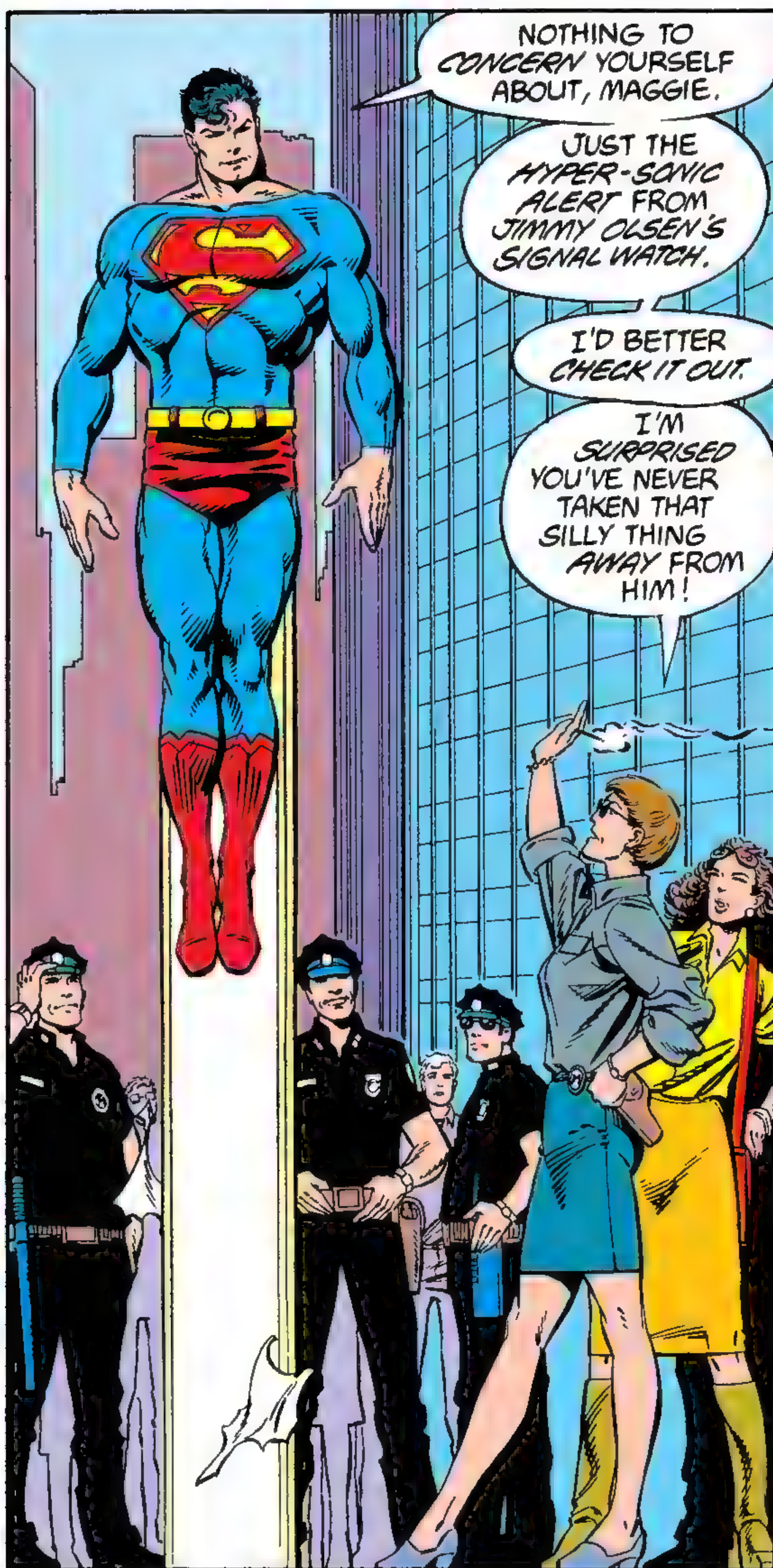
OUR METHODS TEND
TO GET ON EACH
OTHER'S NERVES.

STILL, A QUICK
TRIP TO GOTHAM
MIGHT BE
WORTH THE...

OW!

SUPERMAN!

WHAT'S
WRONG??

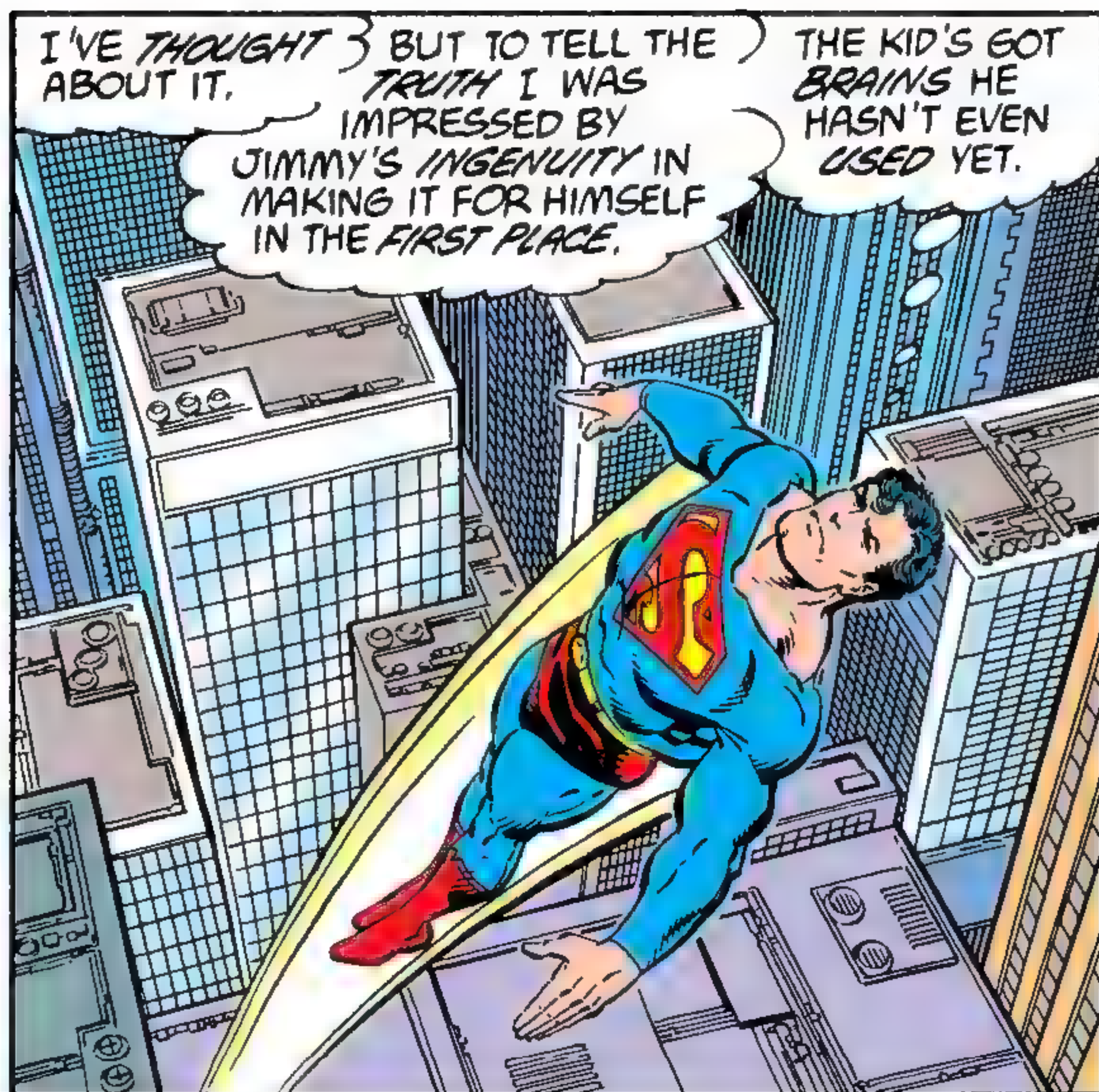


NOTHING TO CONCERN YOURSELF ABOUT, MAGGIE.

JUST THE HYPER-SONIC ALERT FROM JIMMY OLSEN'S SIGNAL WATCH.

I'D BETTER CHECK IT OUT.

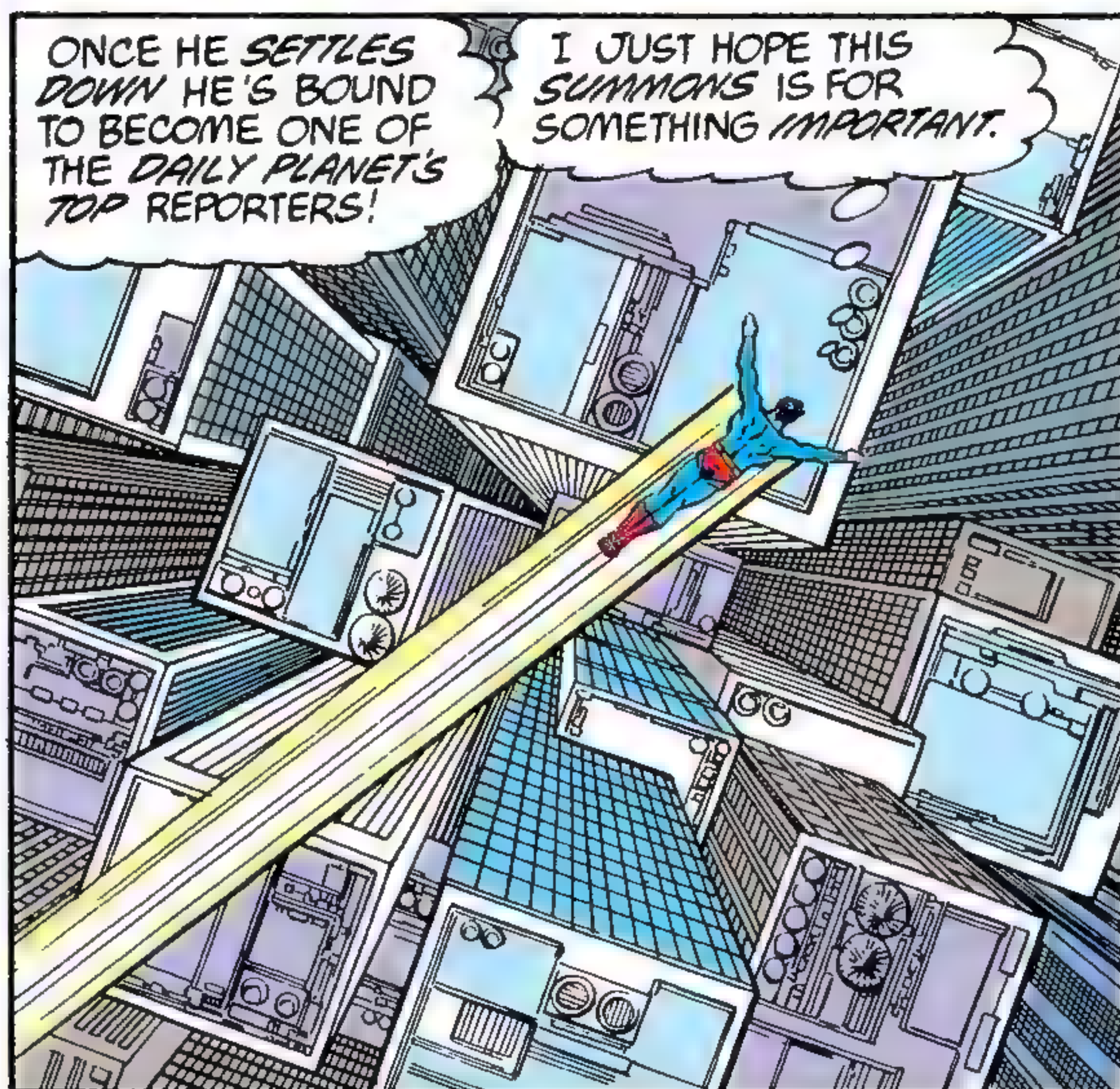
I'M SURPRISED YOU'VE NEVER TAKEN THAT SILLY THING AWAY FROM HIM!



I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT.

BUT TO TELL THE TRUTH I WAS IMPRESSED BY JIMMY'S INGENUITY IN MAKING IT FOR HIMSELF IN THE FIRST PLACE.

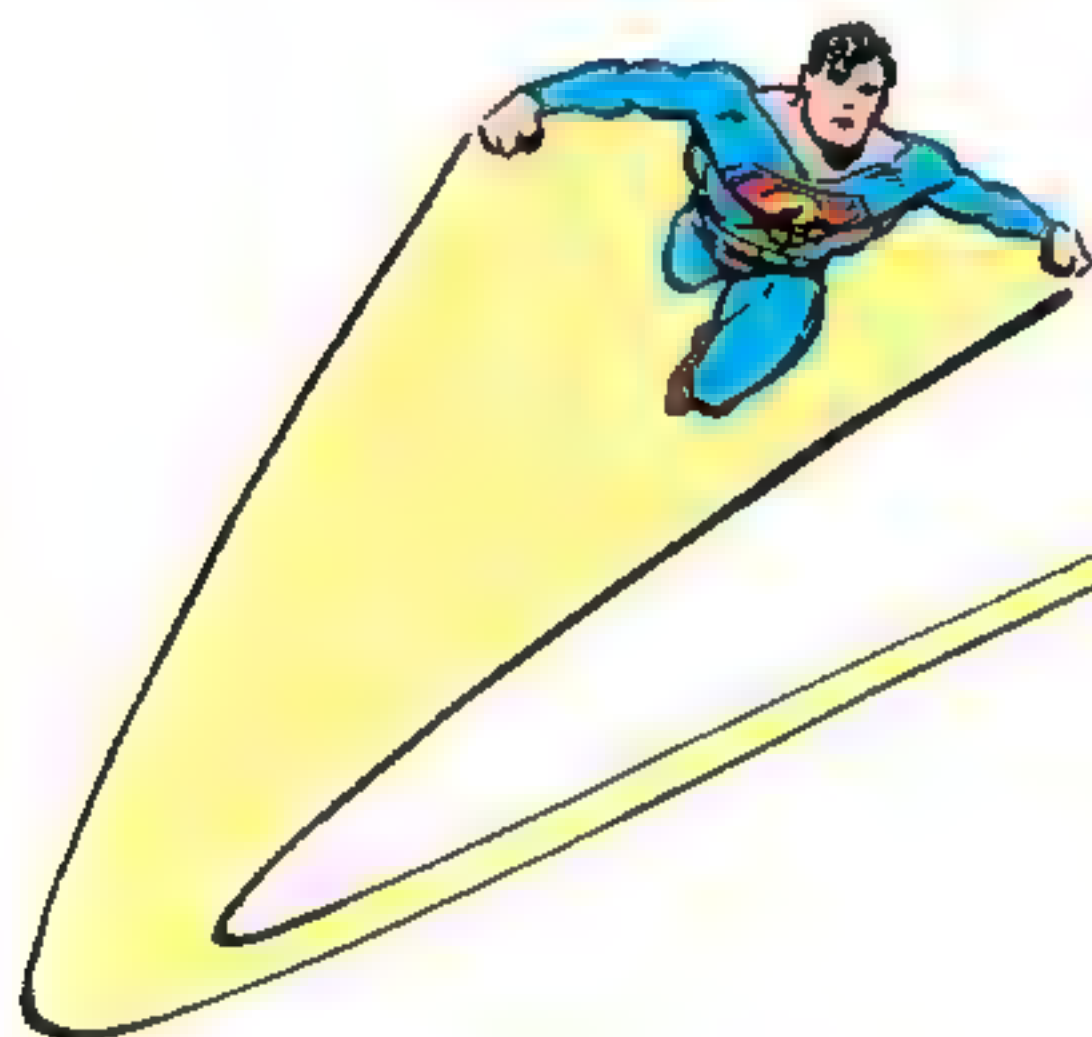
THE KID'S GOT BRAINS HE HASN'T EVEN USED YET.

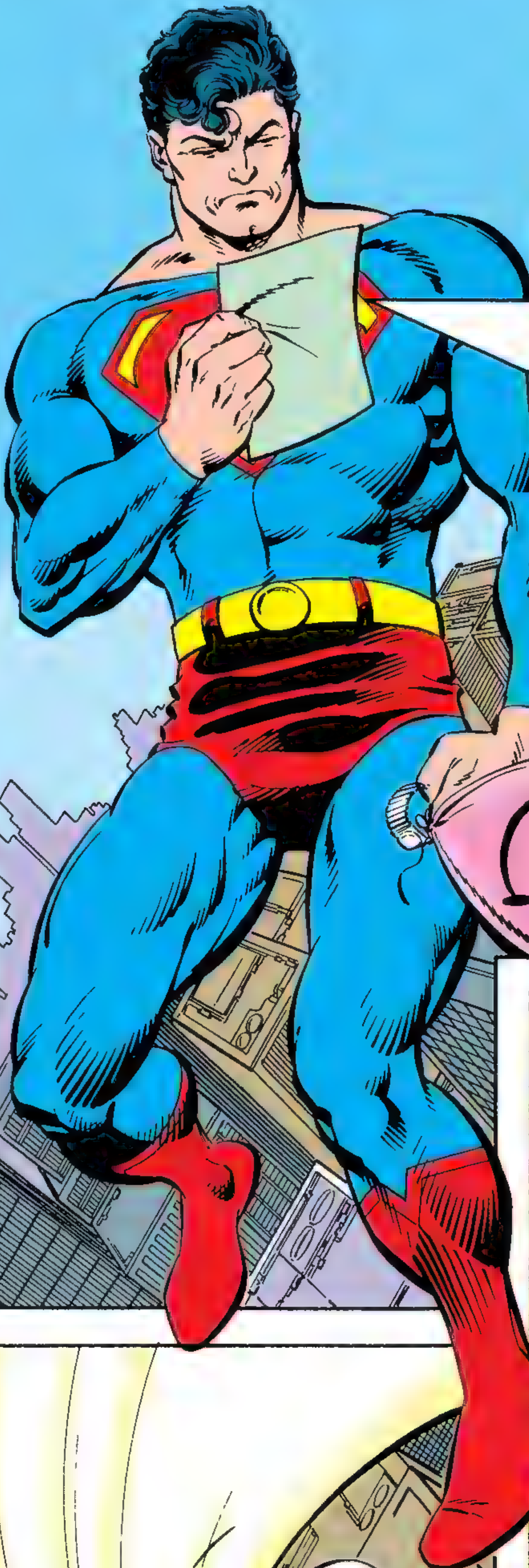


ONCE HE SETTLES DOWN HE'S BOUND TO BECOME ONE OF THE DAILY PLANET'S TOP REPORTERS!

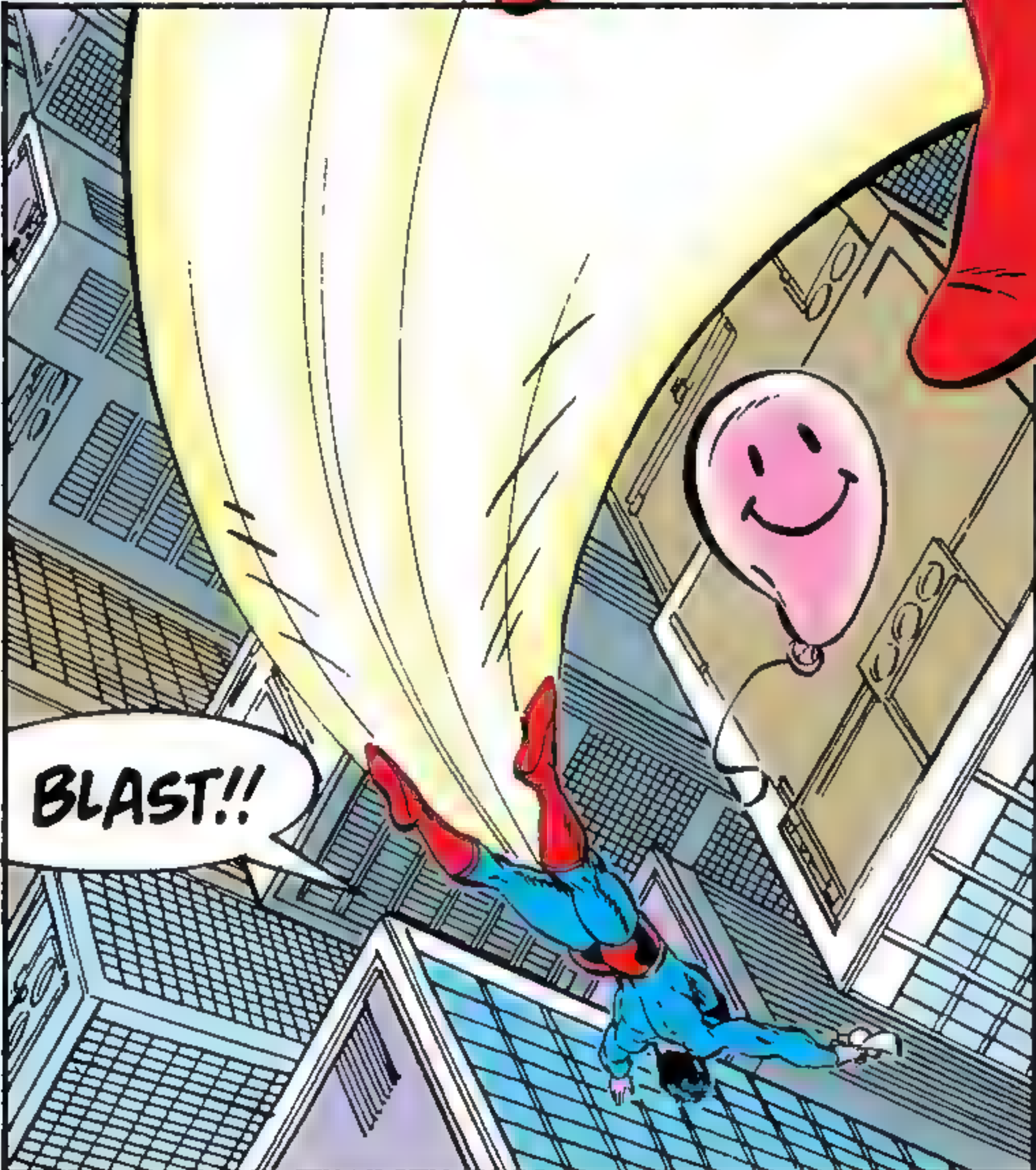
I JUST HOPE THIS SUMMONS IS FOR SOMETHING IMPORTANT.

IT BETTER BE! HE'S GOT THE ALERT SIGNAL CRANKED UP SO HIGH IT'S ALMOST DEAFENING...
...ME...??

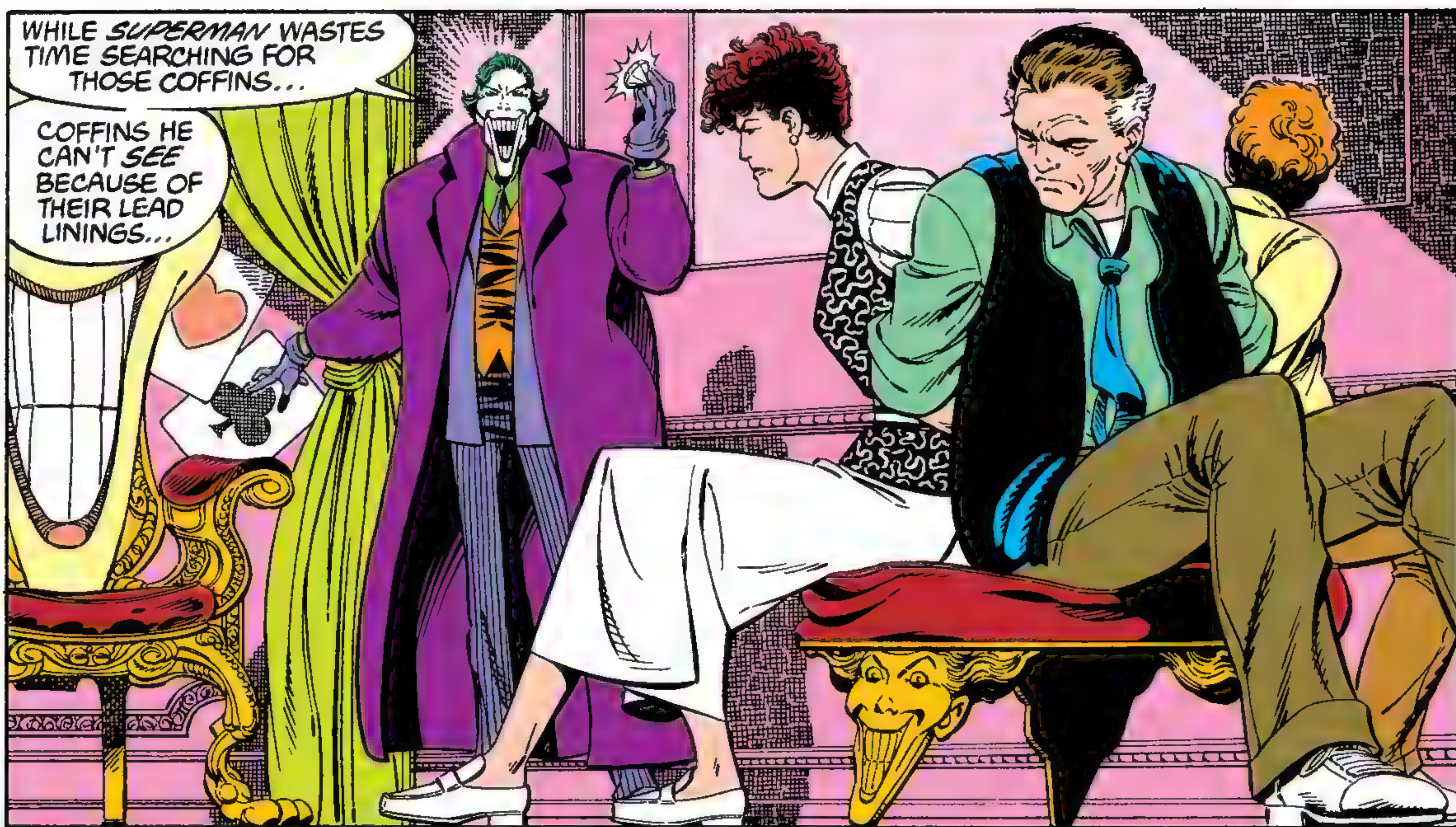


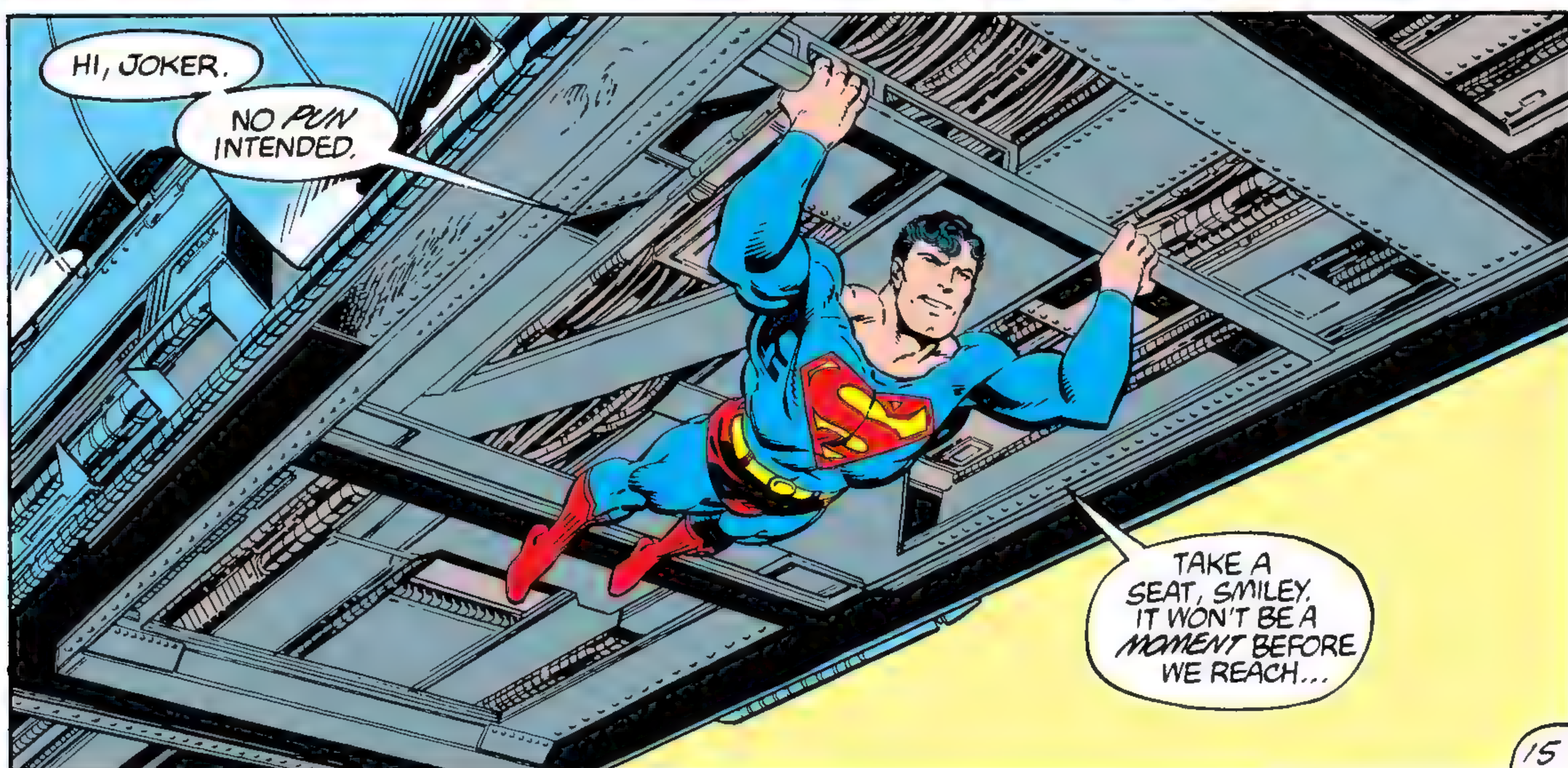
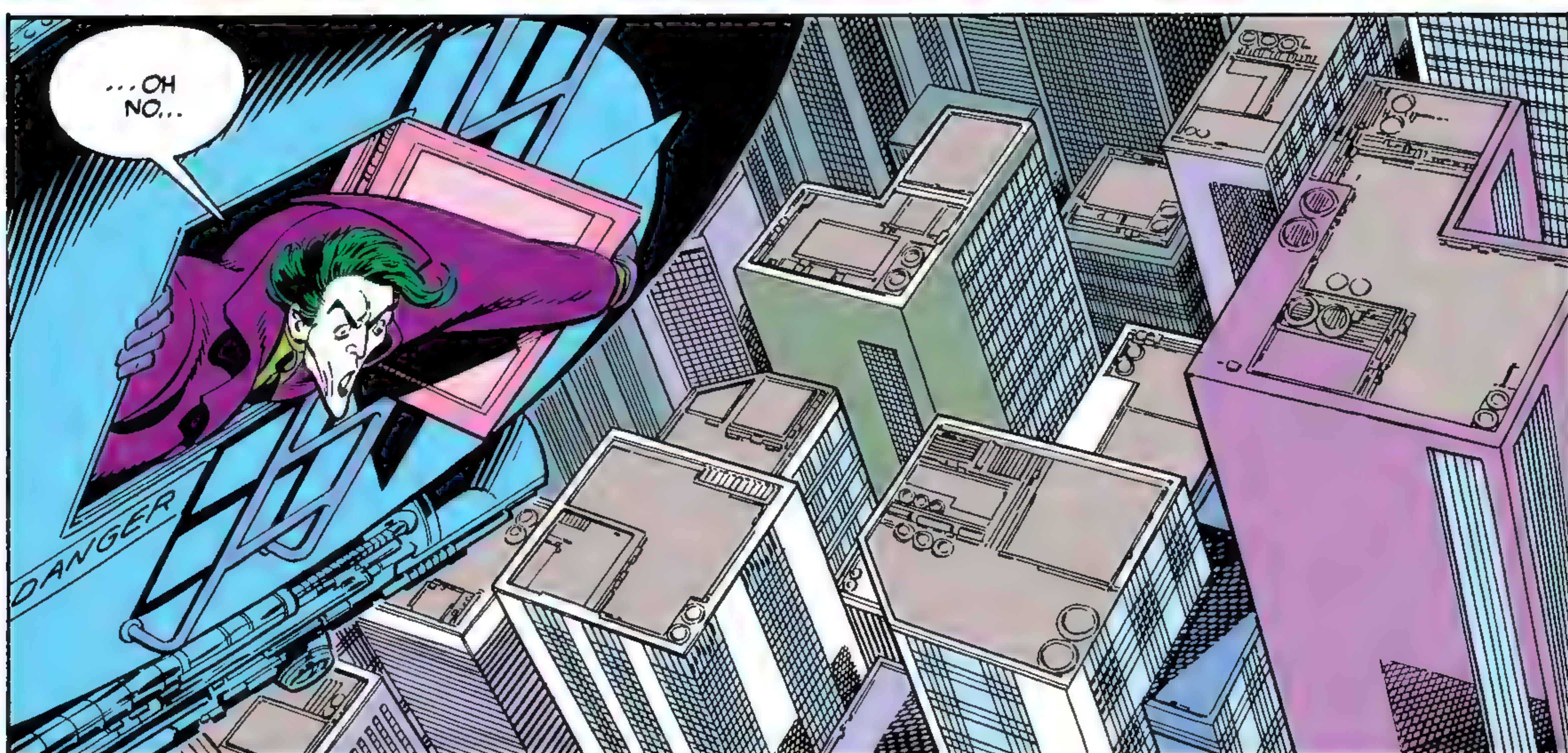
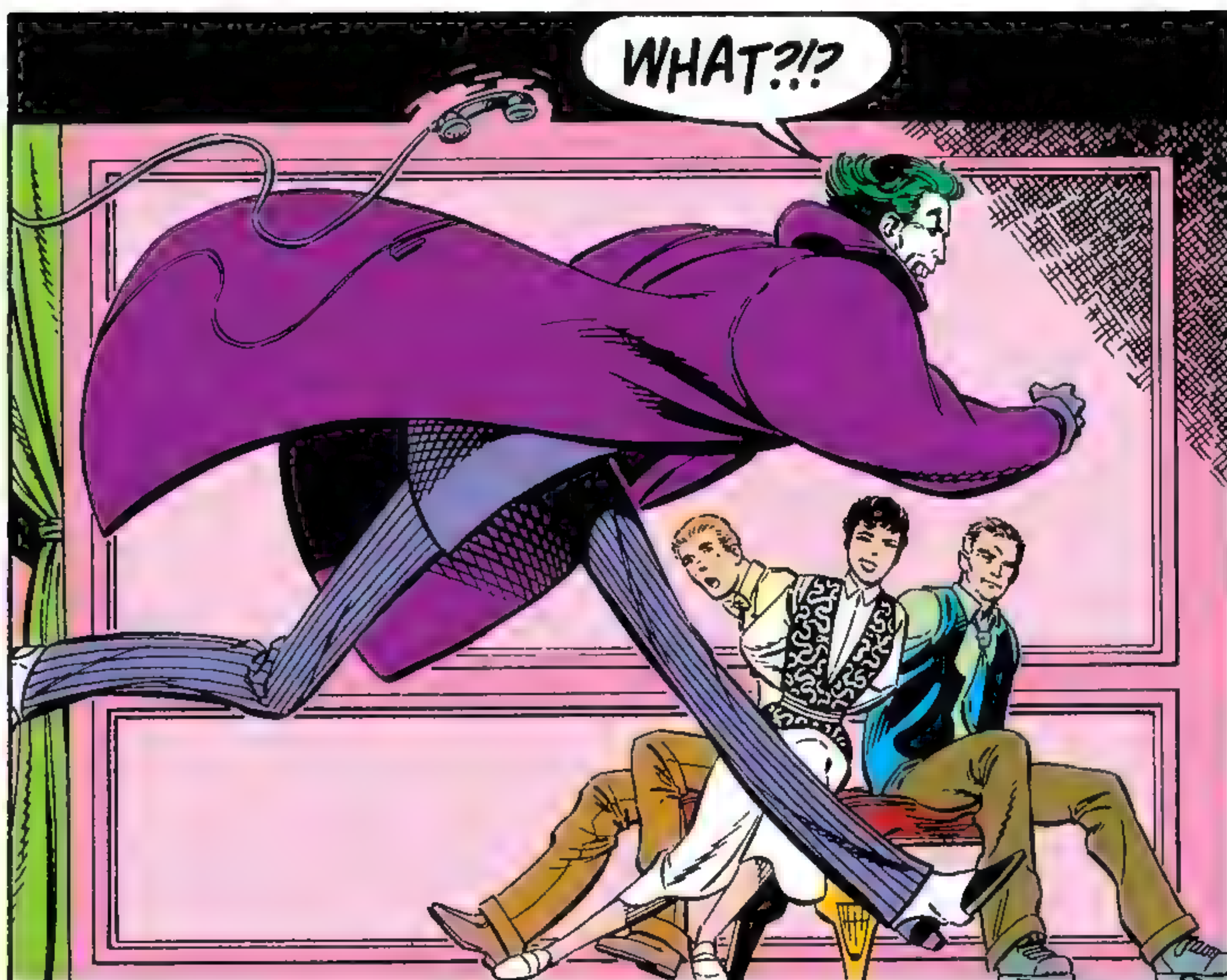


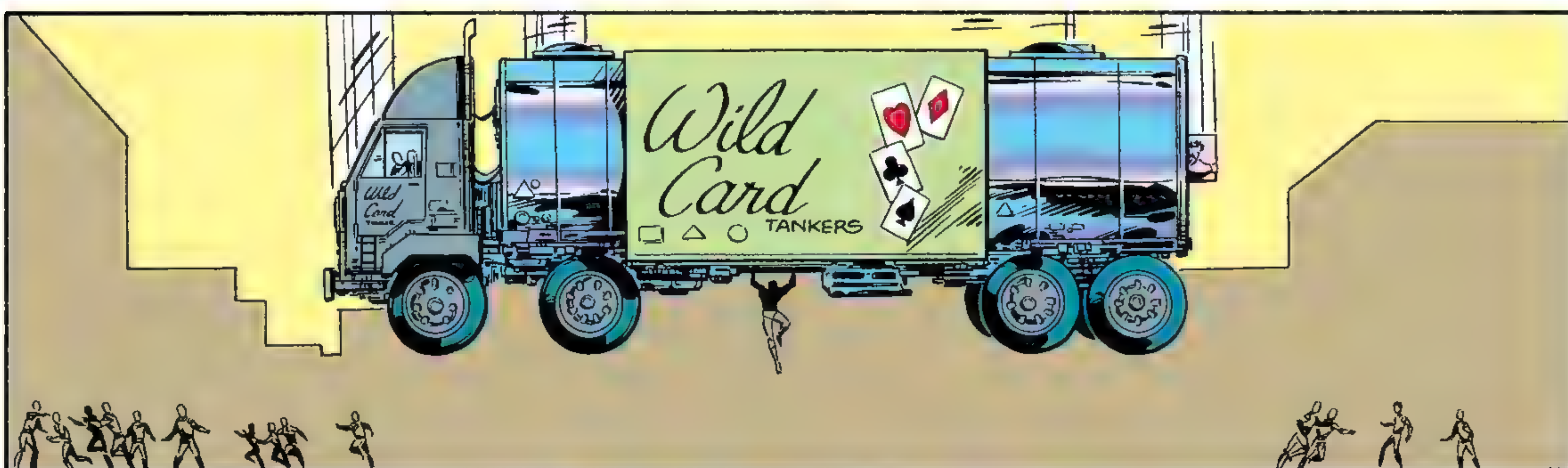
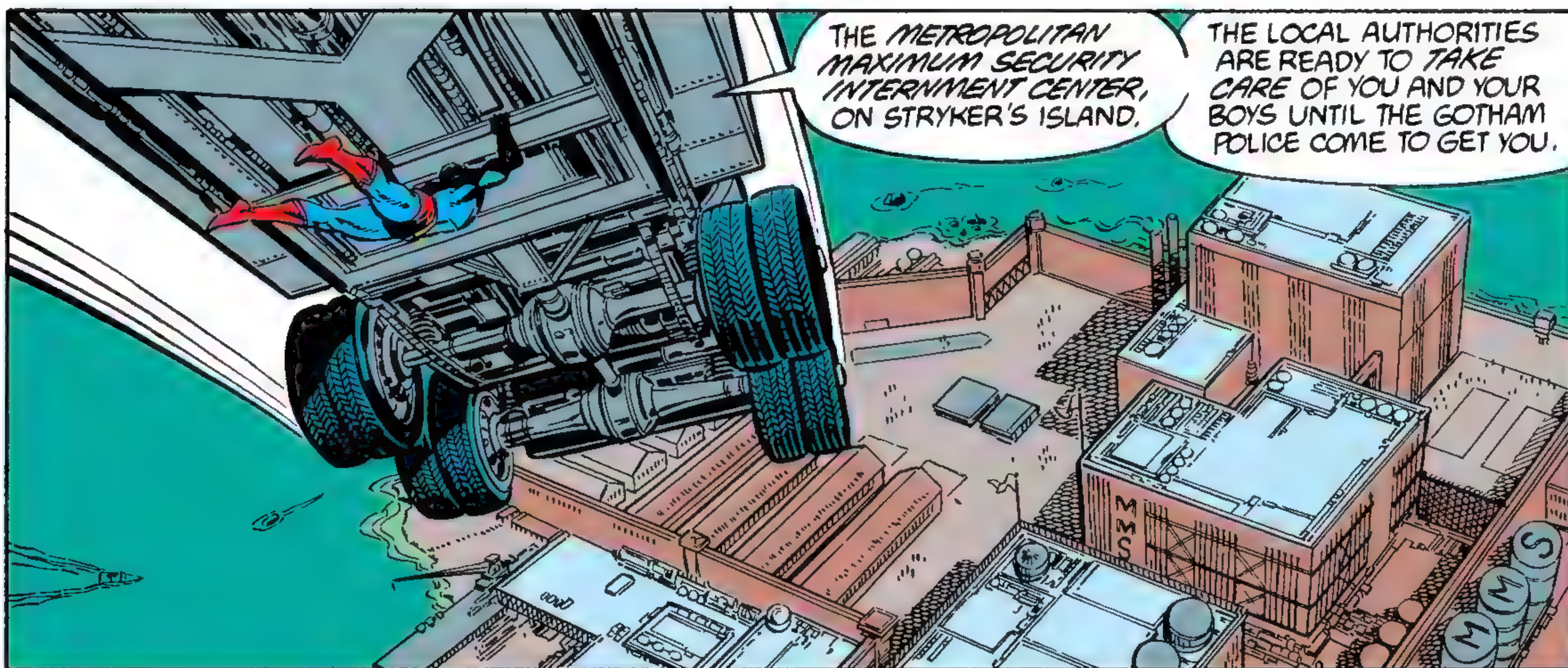
SUPERMAN...
BY NOW YOU KNOW I MEAN
BUSINESS. TO DISSUADE
YOU FROM ATTEMPTING TO
STOP MY LEAVING YOUR FAIR
CITY, I HAVE BORROWED THREE
OF YOUR FRIENDS.
LOIS LANE, JIMMY OLSEN, AND
PERRY WHITE ARE IN SEALED,
LEAD-LINED COFFINS IN
VARIOUS PLACES AROUND
METROPOLIS.
YOUR CHOICE IS OBVIOUS: COME
AFTER ME, OR SAVE YOUR
FRIENDS.
OH--THEY EACH HAVE LESS
THAN HALF AN HOUR OF AIR.
THE JOKER

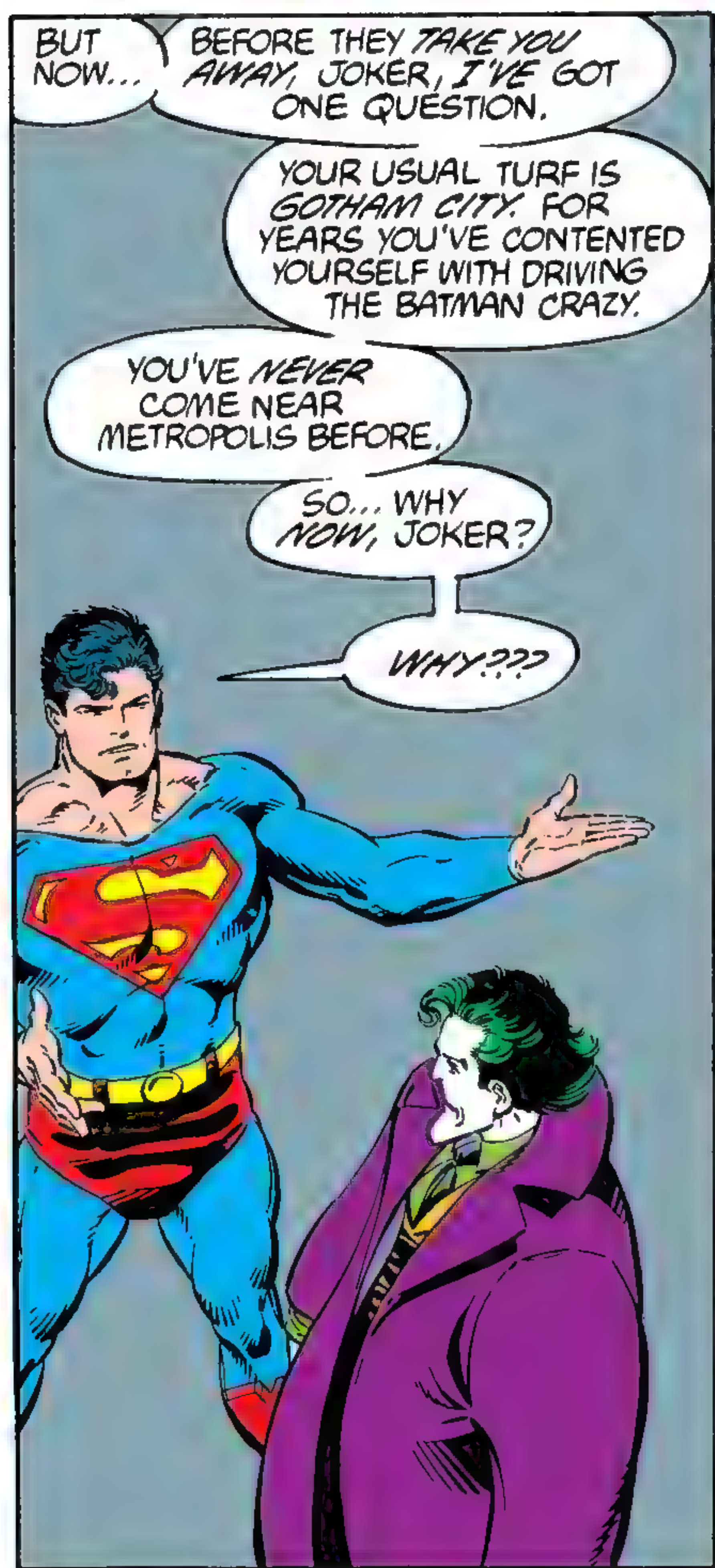
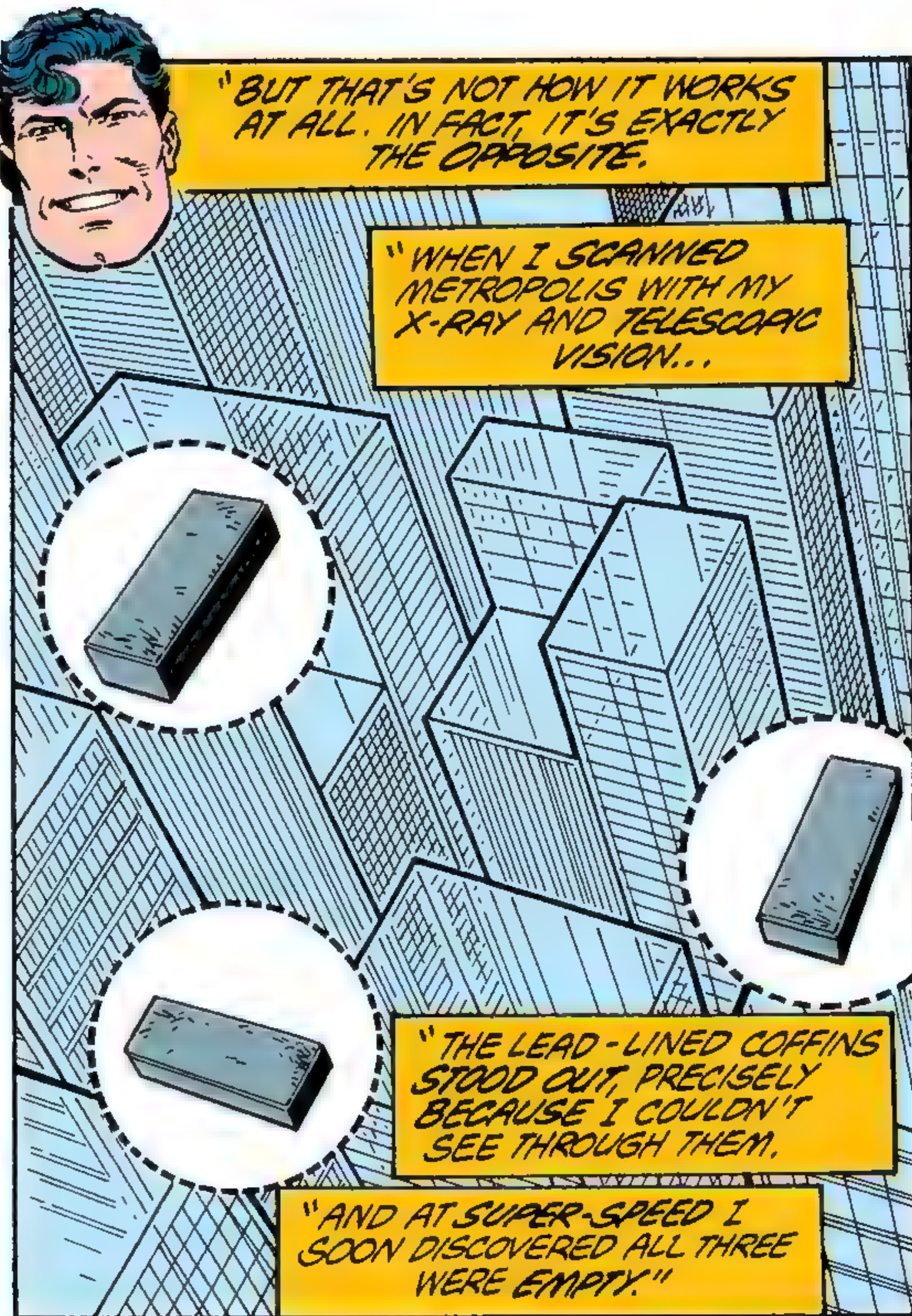
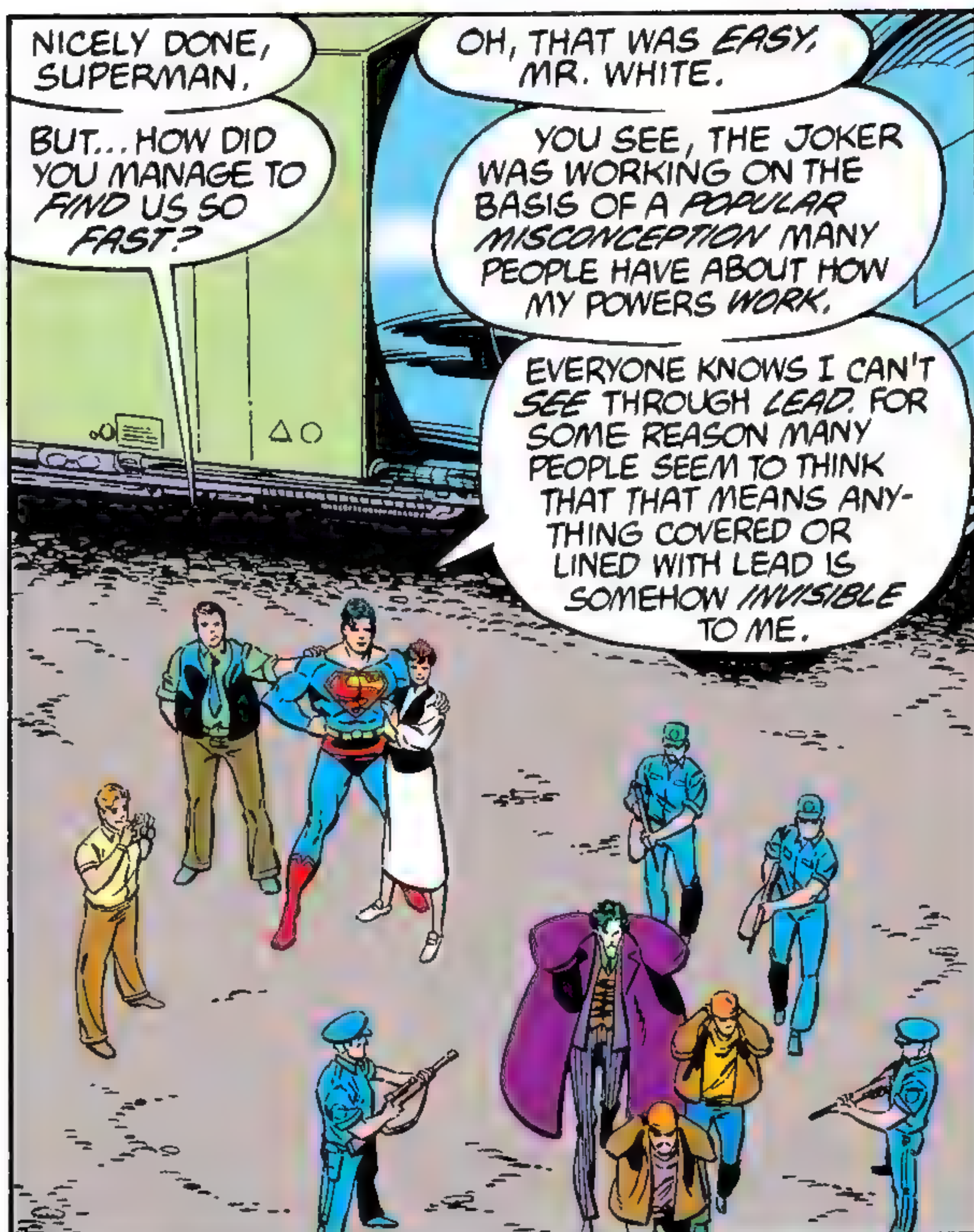


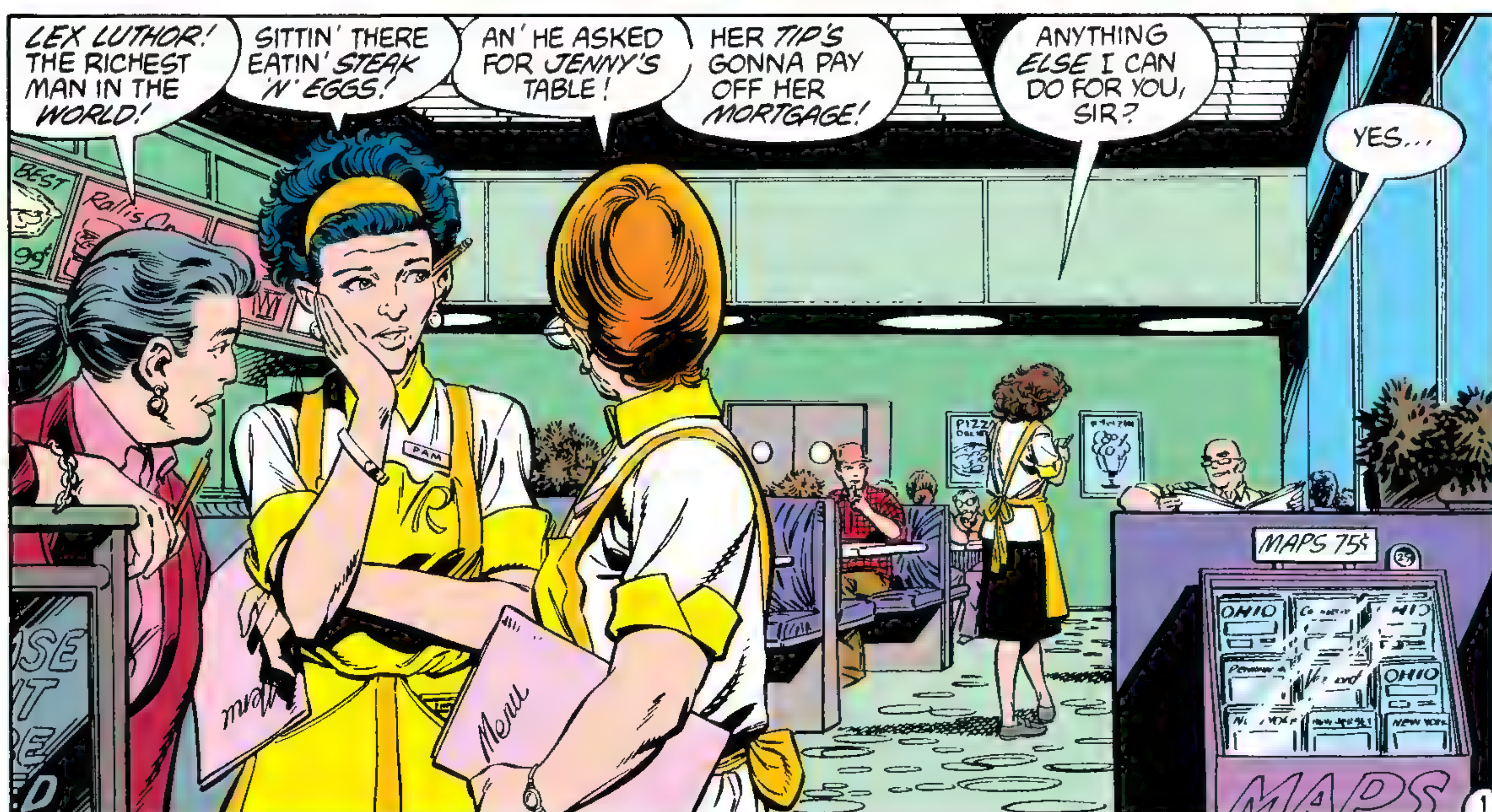
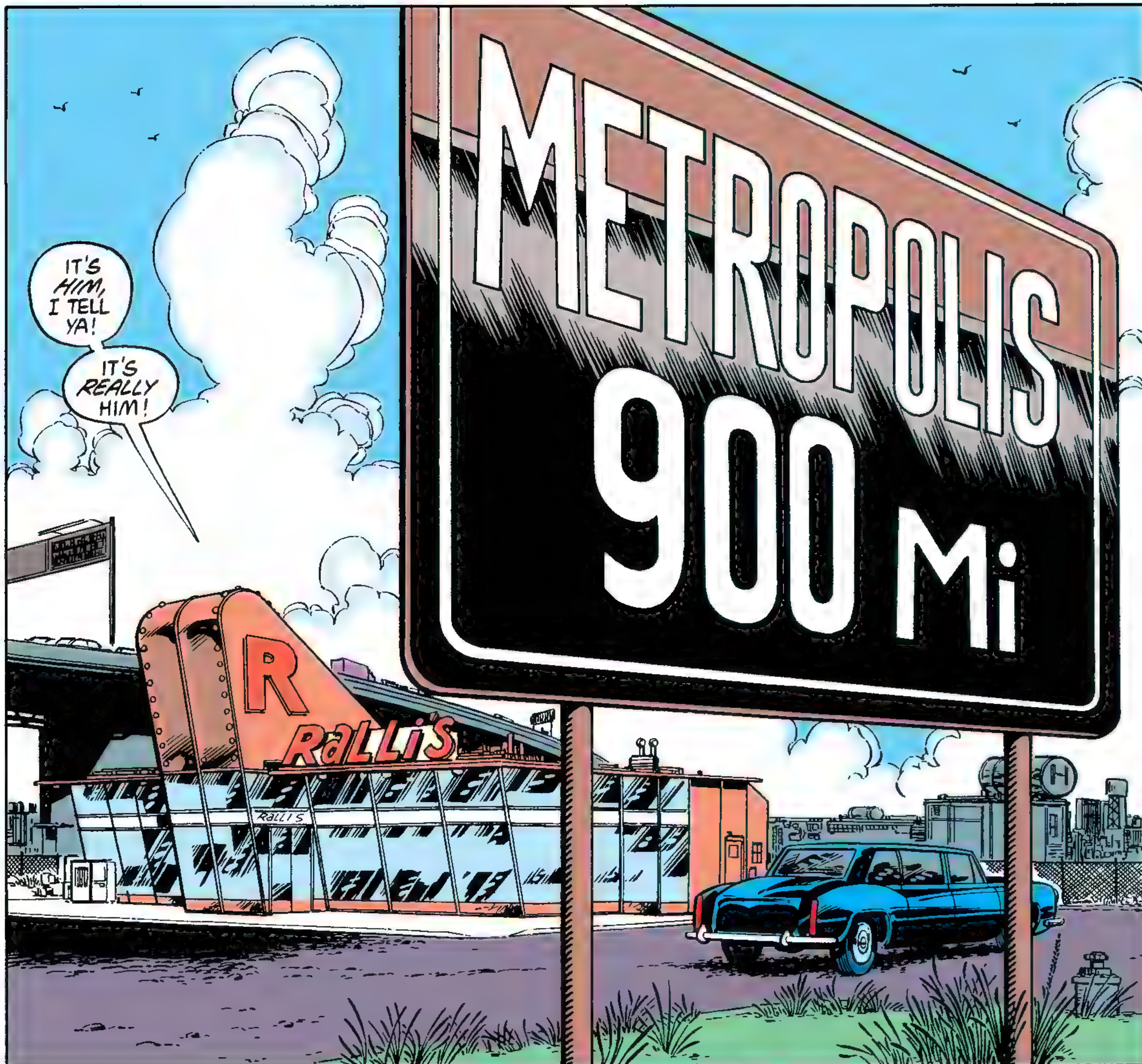
BLAST!!



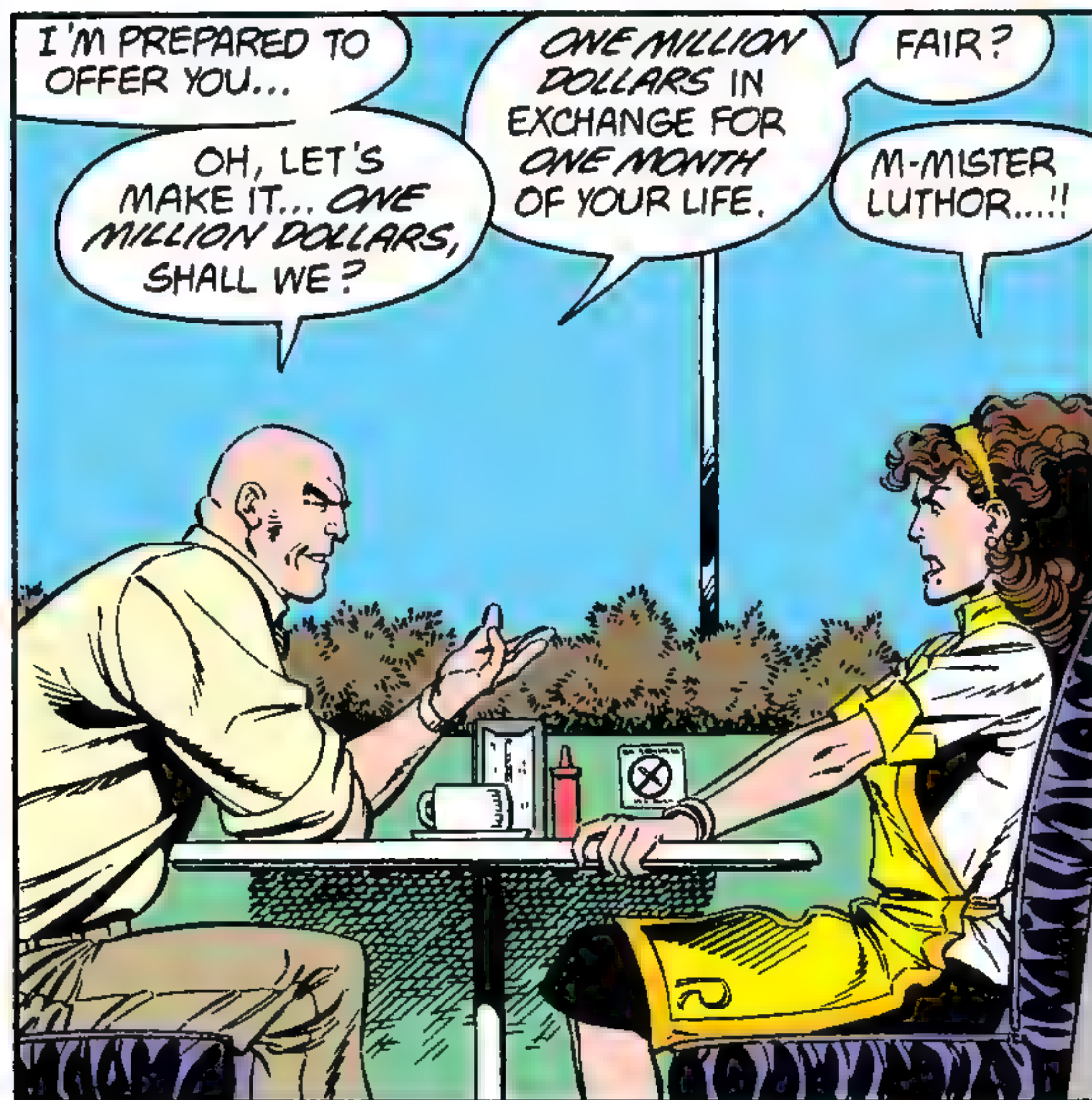
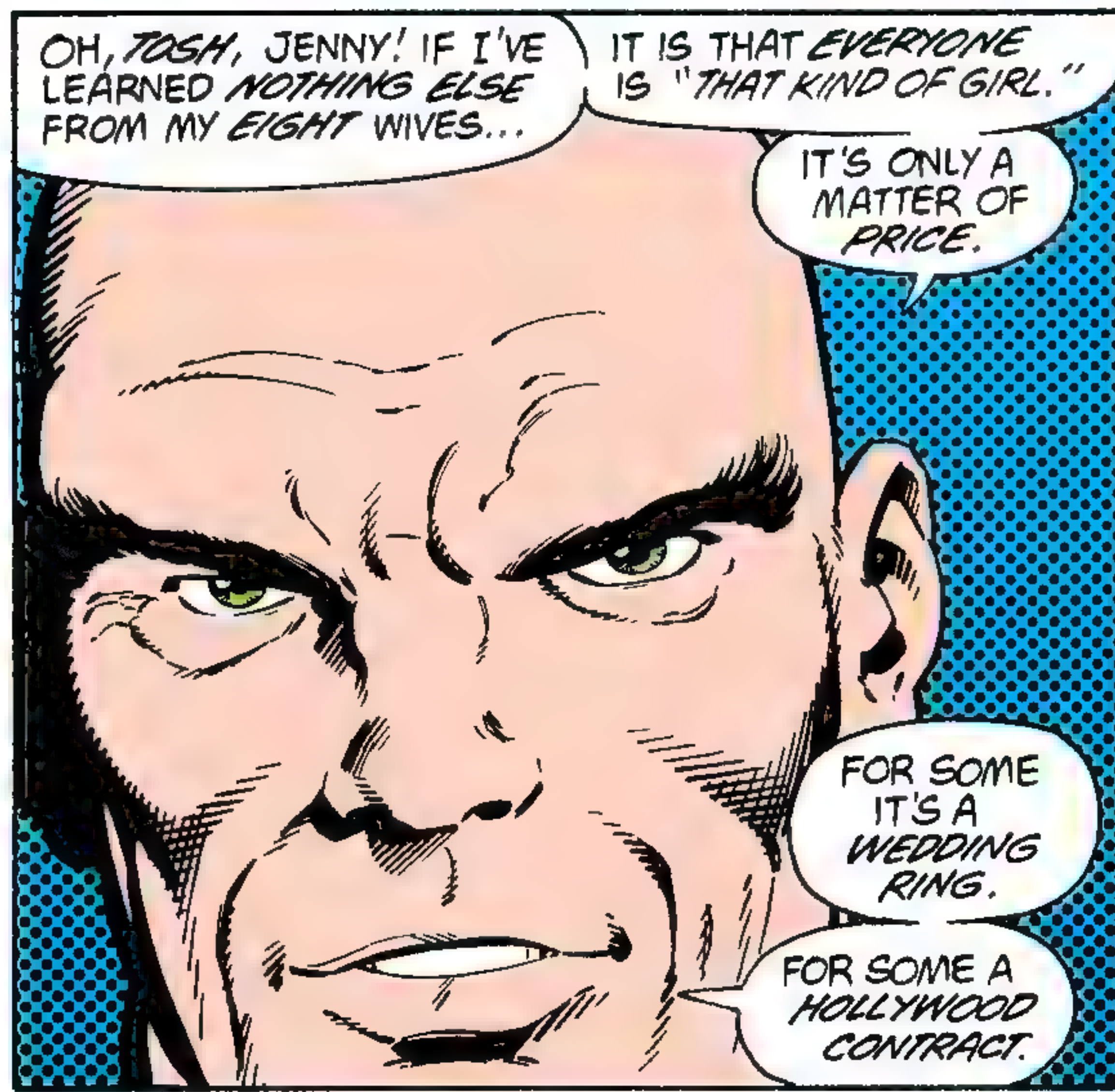
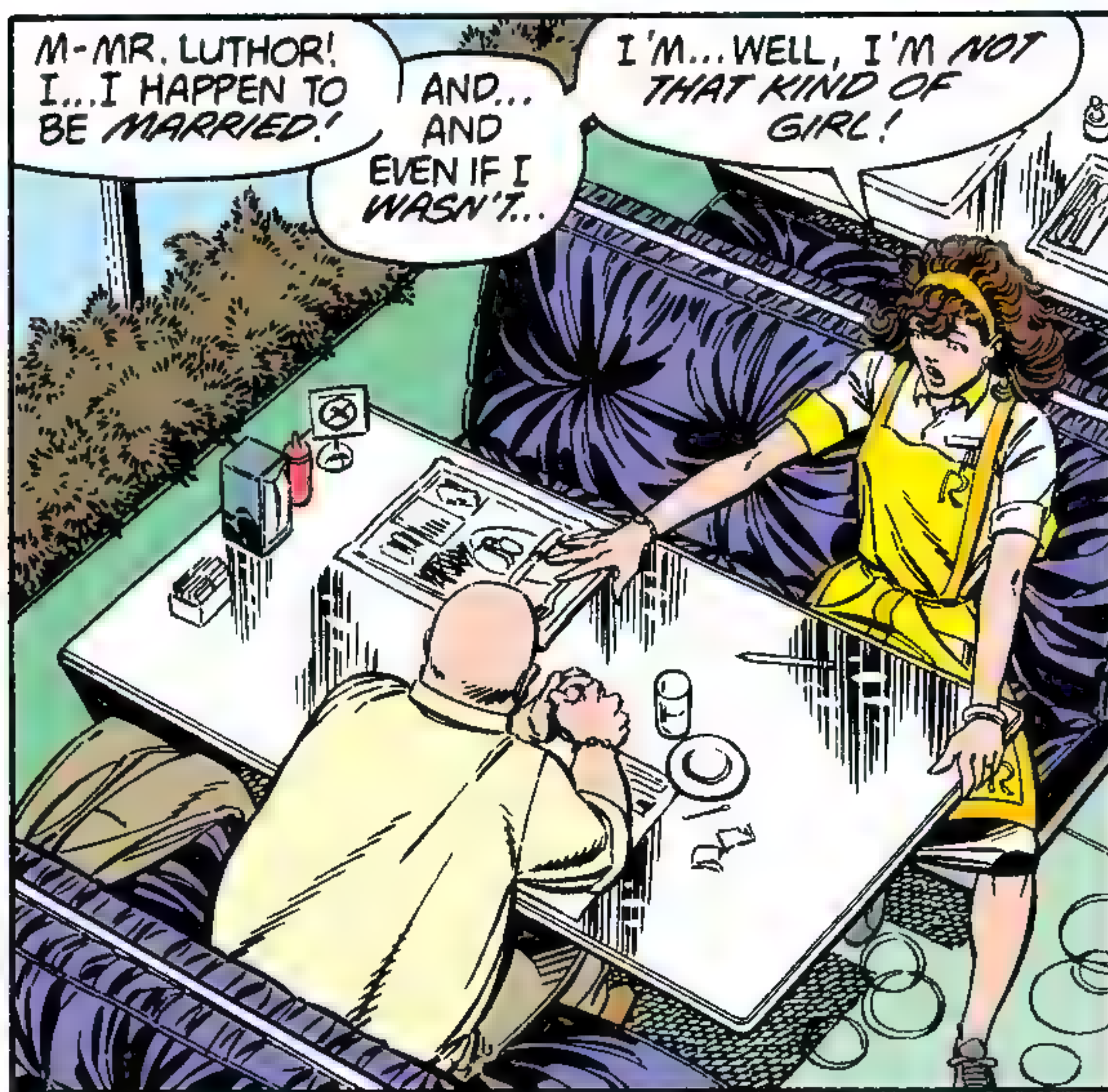
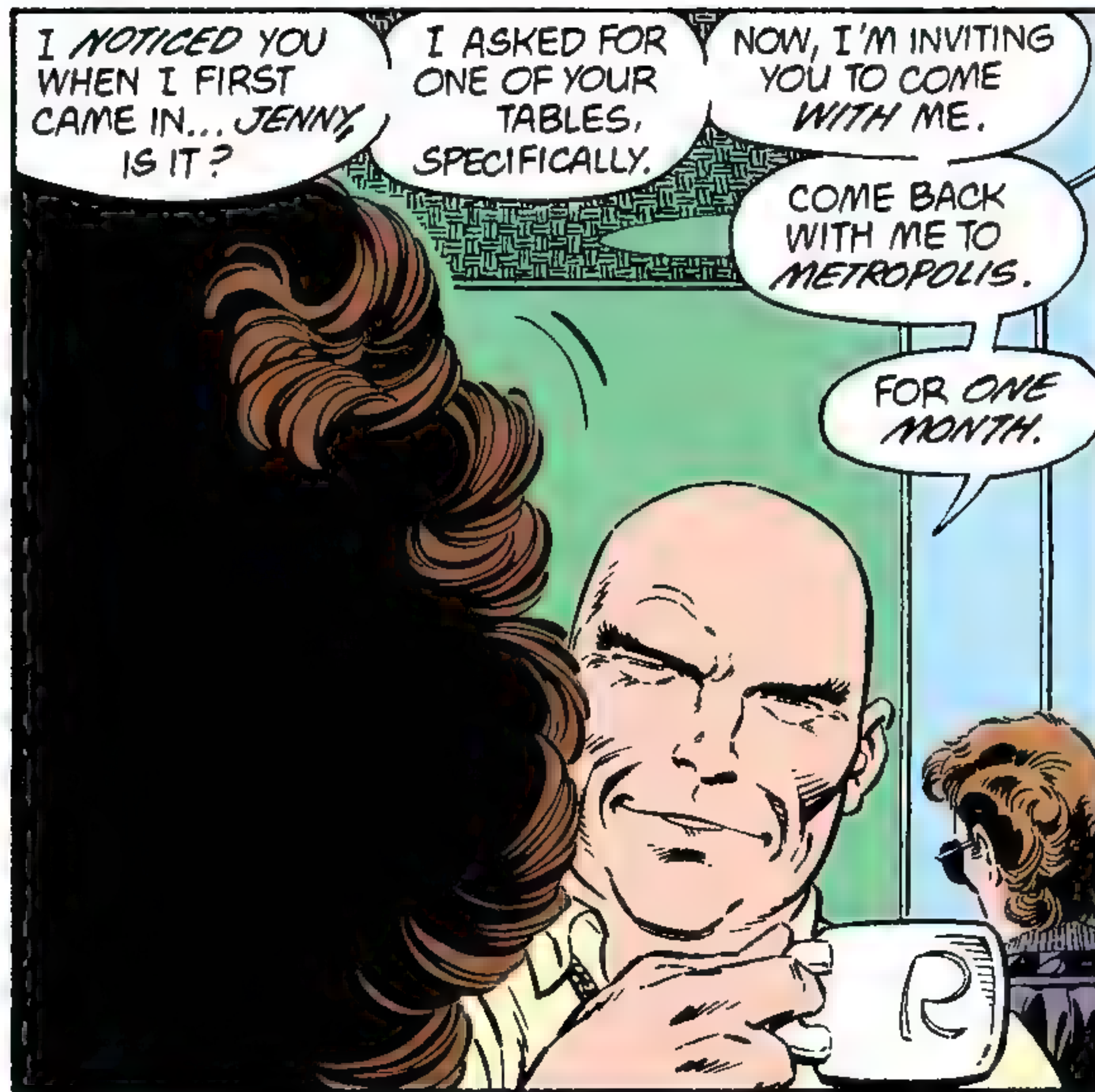














CALM YOUR-SELF.

YOU'RE REACTING EMOTIONALLY, NOT LOGICALLY.

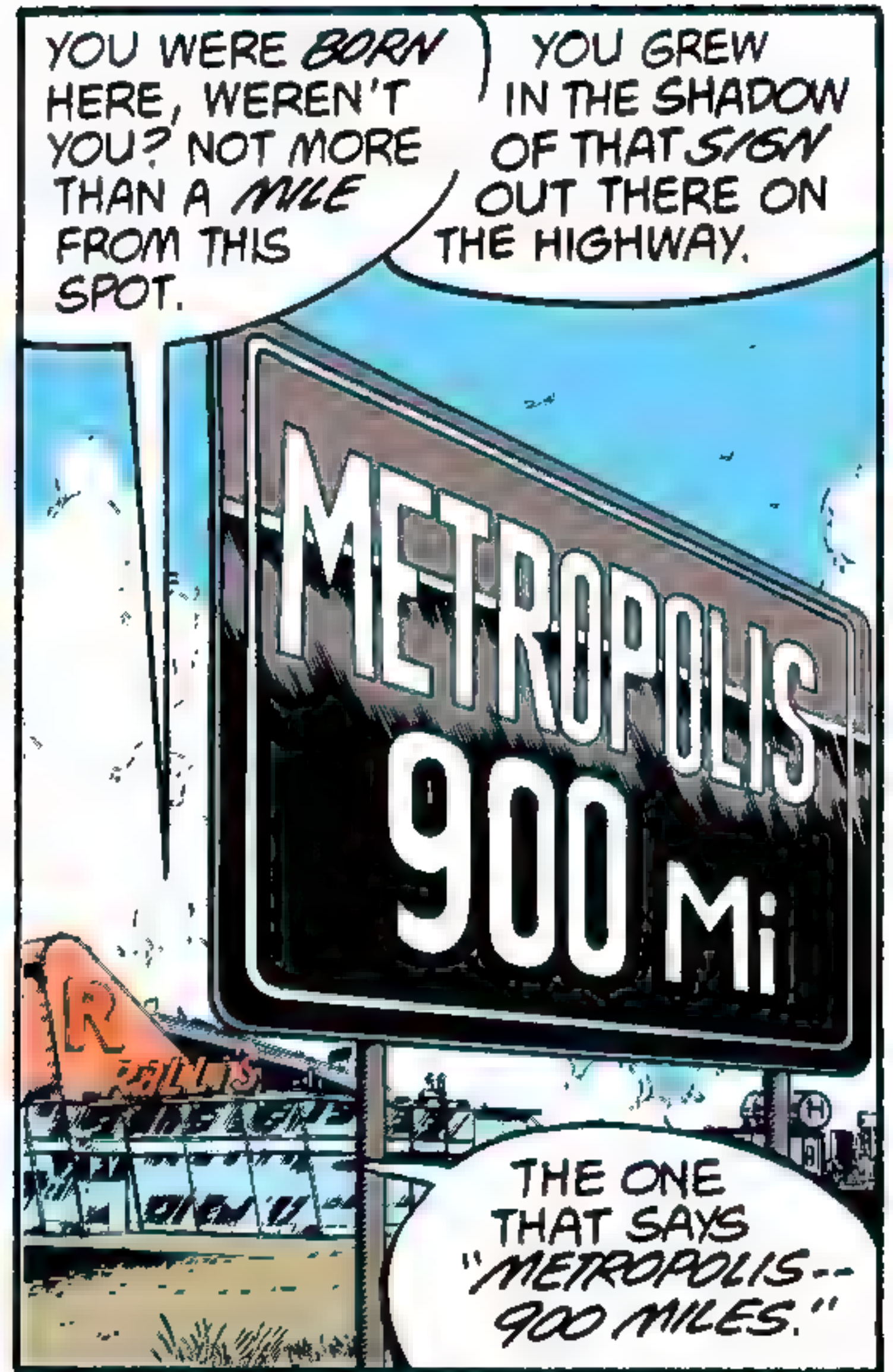
I DO NOT MAKE THIS OFFER LIGHTLY, JENNY.



LOOK AROUND YOU. YOUR JOB. YOUR PLACE IN THE WORLD.

SHALL I TELL YOU THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE, JENNY?

PAST, PRESENT... AND FUTURE?



YOU WERE BORN HERE, WEREN'T YOU? NOT MORE THAN A MILE FROM THIS SPOT.

YOU GREW IN THE SHADOW OF THAT SIGN OUT THERE ON THE HIGHWAY.

THE ONE THAT SAYS "METROPOLIS-- 900 MILES."



YOU WERE A BRIGHT CHILD. EVEN PRECOCIOUS. YOU SANG ALL THE TIME.

IN GRADESCHOOL YOU DANCED IN THE SCHOOL PLAY.

YOU WERE... A SUNFLOWER?

... A BUTTERFLY...



A BUTTERFLY. OF COURSE.

HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADER? MOST POPULAR GIRL IN THE SCHOOL?

DATED THE FOOT-BALL HERO. MARRIED HIM.

NO FURTHER EDUCATION FOR EITHER OF YOU, AFTER THAT. COULDN'T AFFORD IT.



AND NOW YOU'RE... TWENTY-TWO?

WITH A HUSBAND, AND A HOUSE, AND A MORTGAGE.

AND SOMEDAY THREE OR FOUR CHILDREN.



A TELEVISION SET TO SHOW YOU THE WORLD. A HIGHWAY SIGN TO REMIND YOU OF YOUR DREAMS.

NINE HUNDRED MILES TO METROPOLIS, JENNY.

NINE HUNDRED MILES TO TOMORROW.



A MILLION DOLLARS CAN BUY A LOT OF TOMORROWS, JENNY.

IT CAN BUY A MILLION TOMORROWS.

AND ALL IT WILL COST YOU IS ONE MONTH.

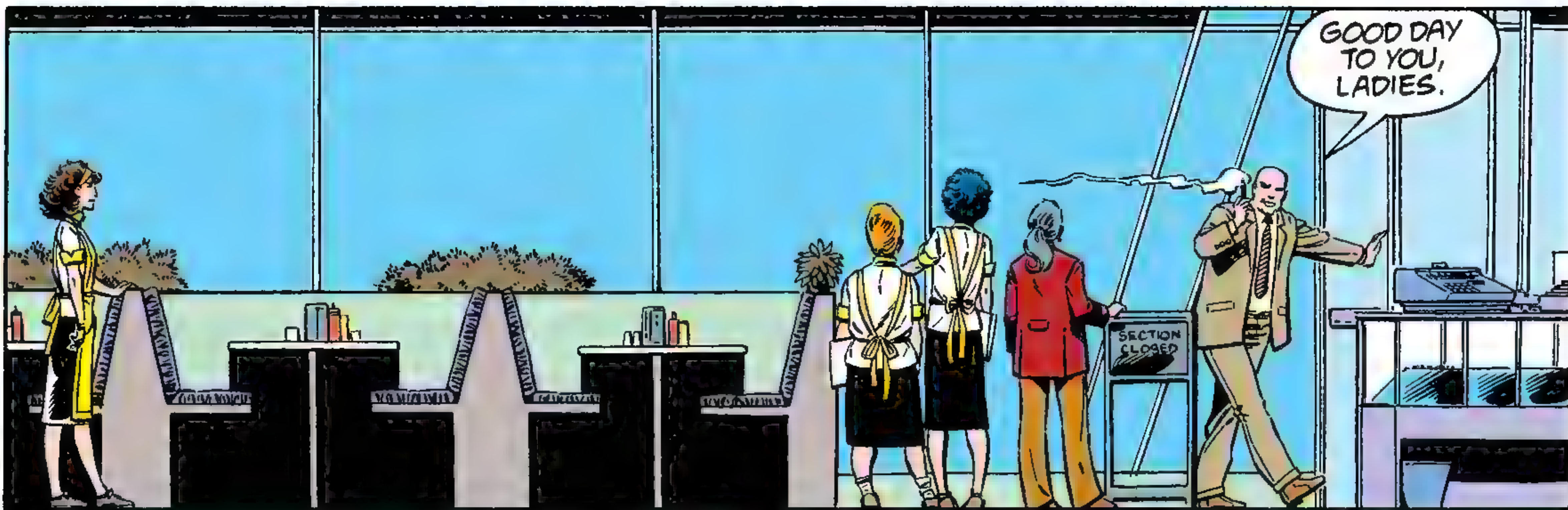


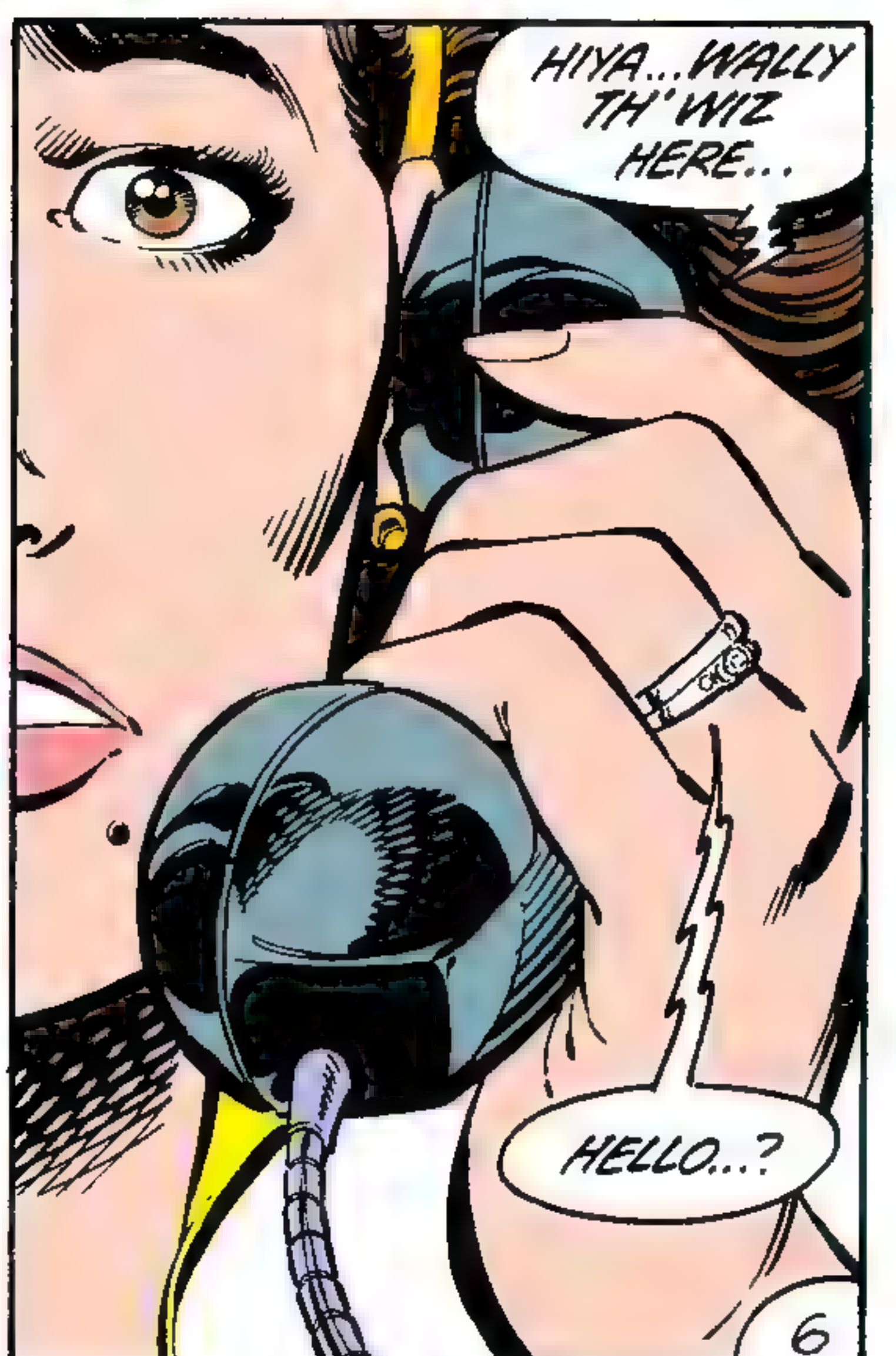
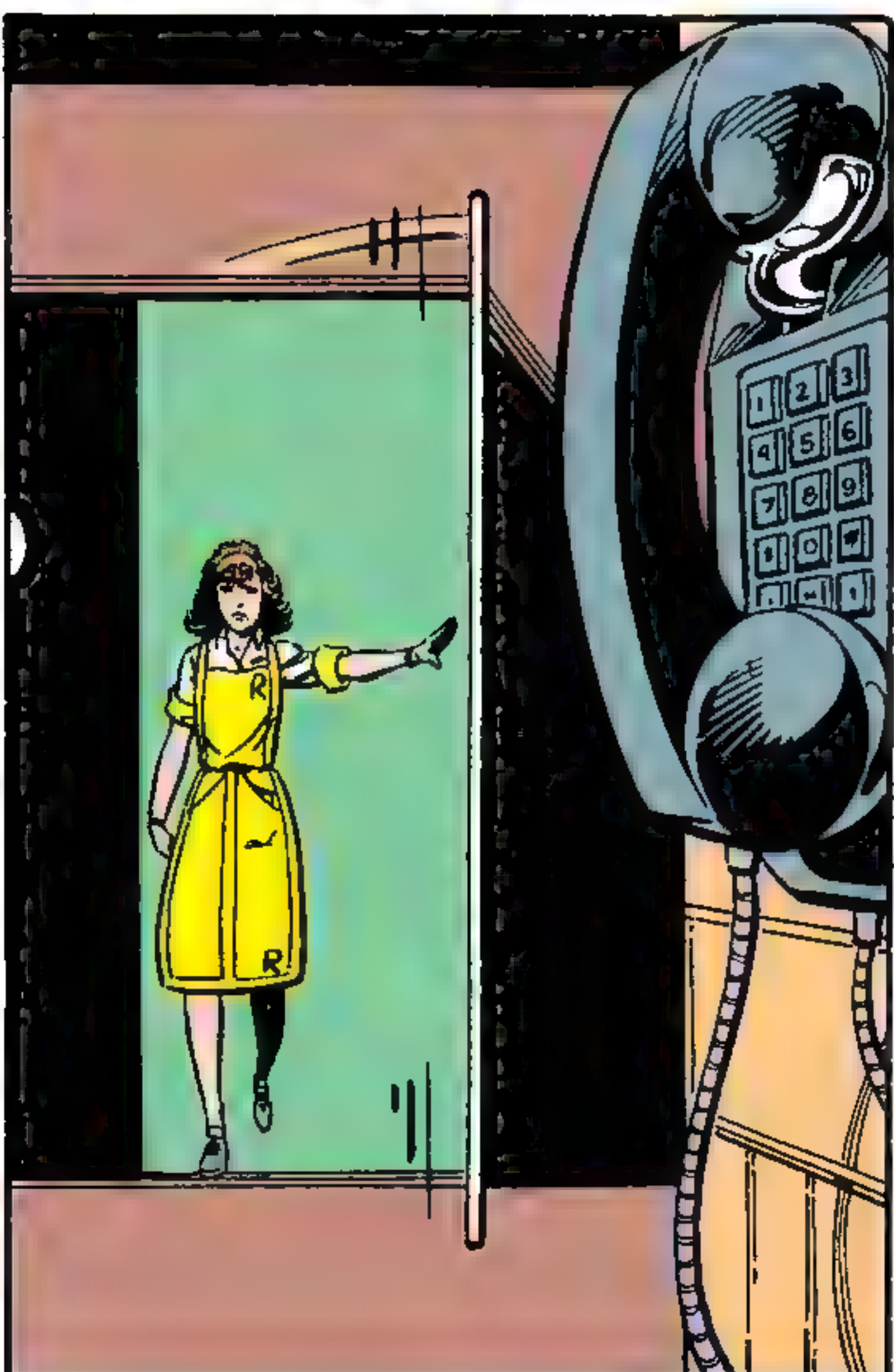
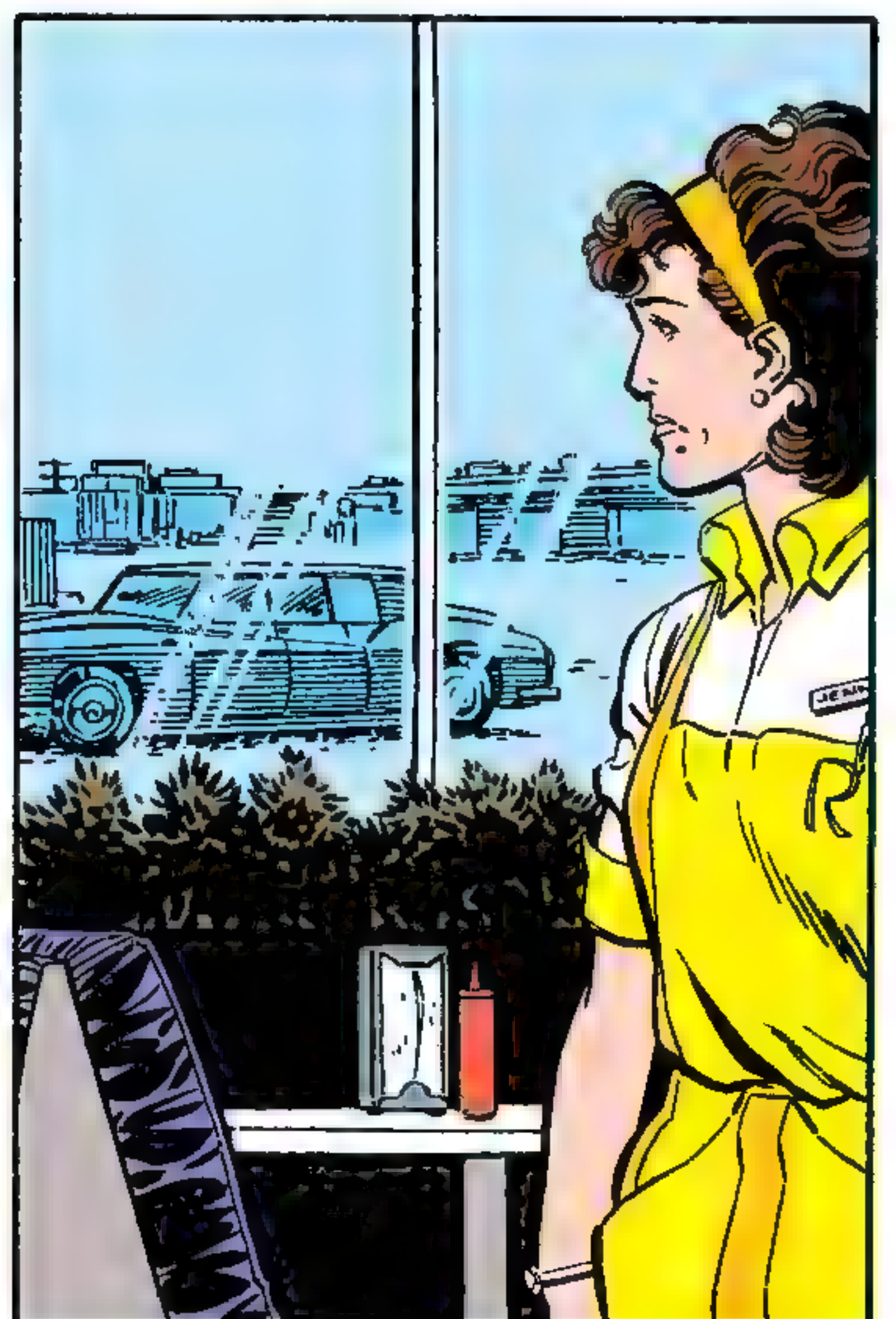
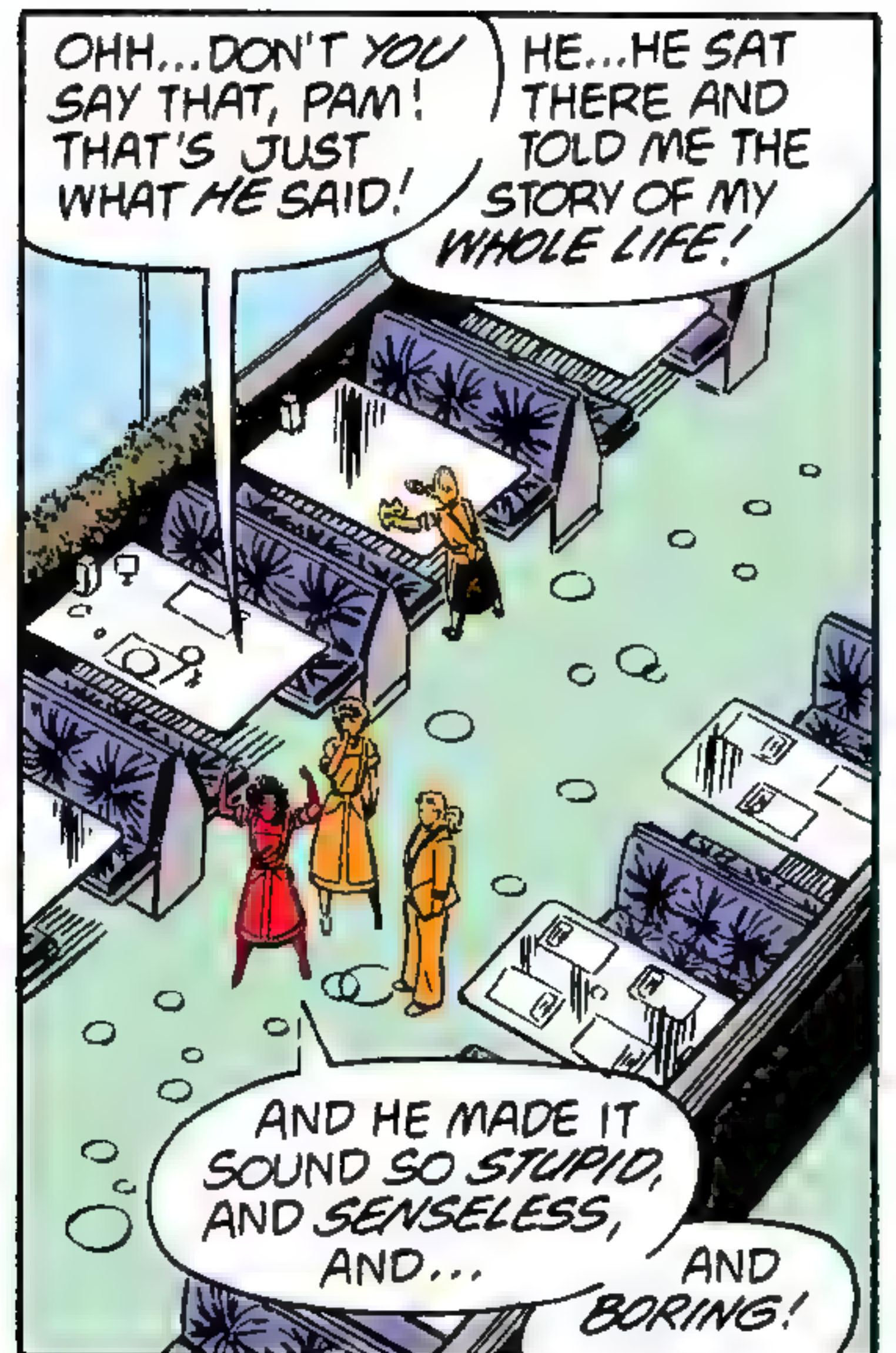
THINK ABOUT IT, JENNY.

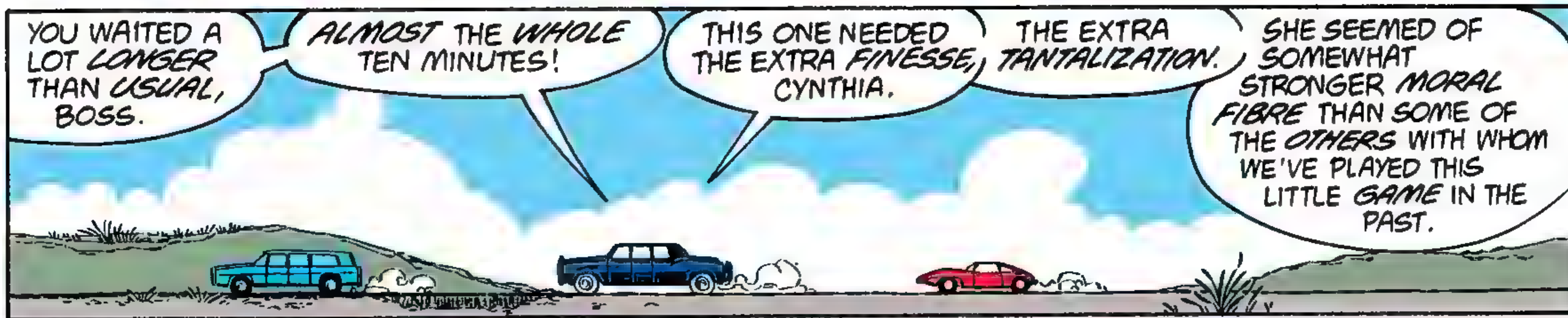
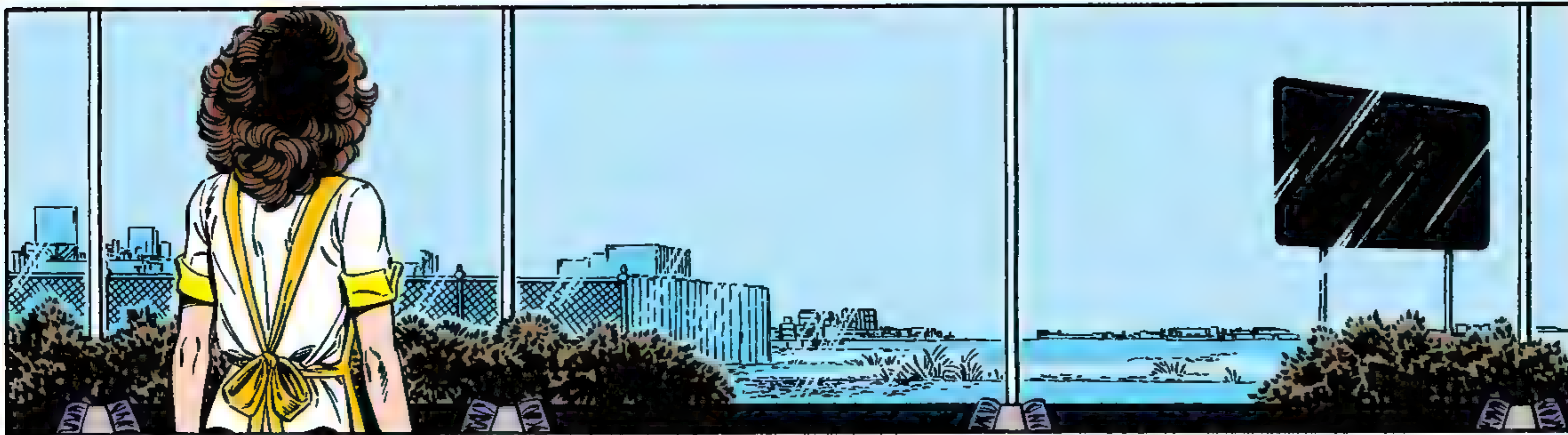
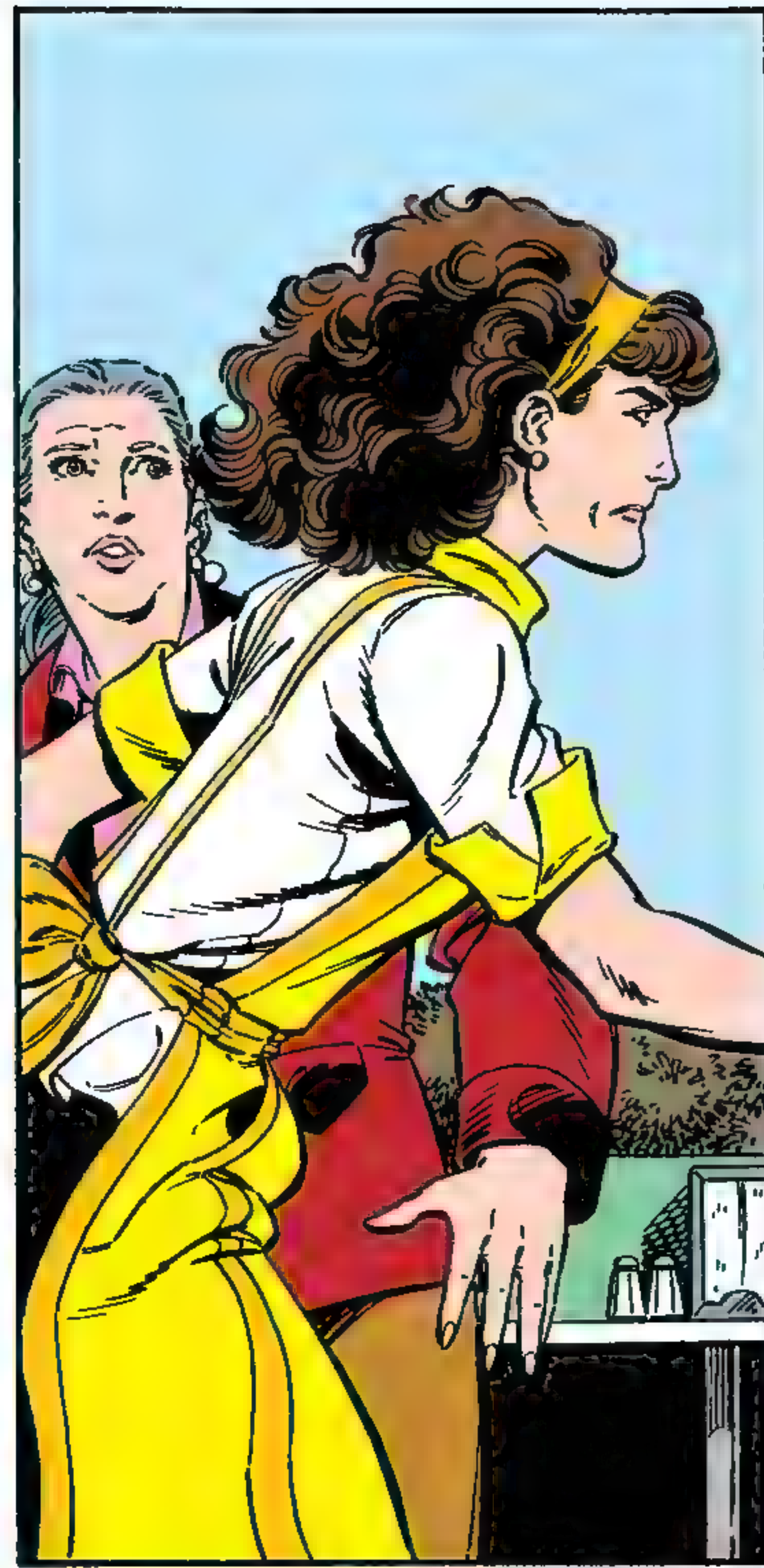
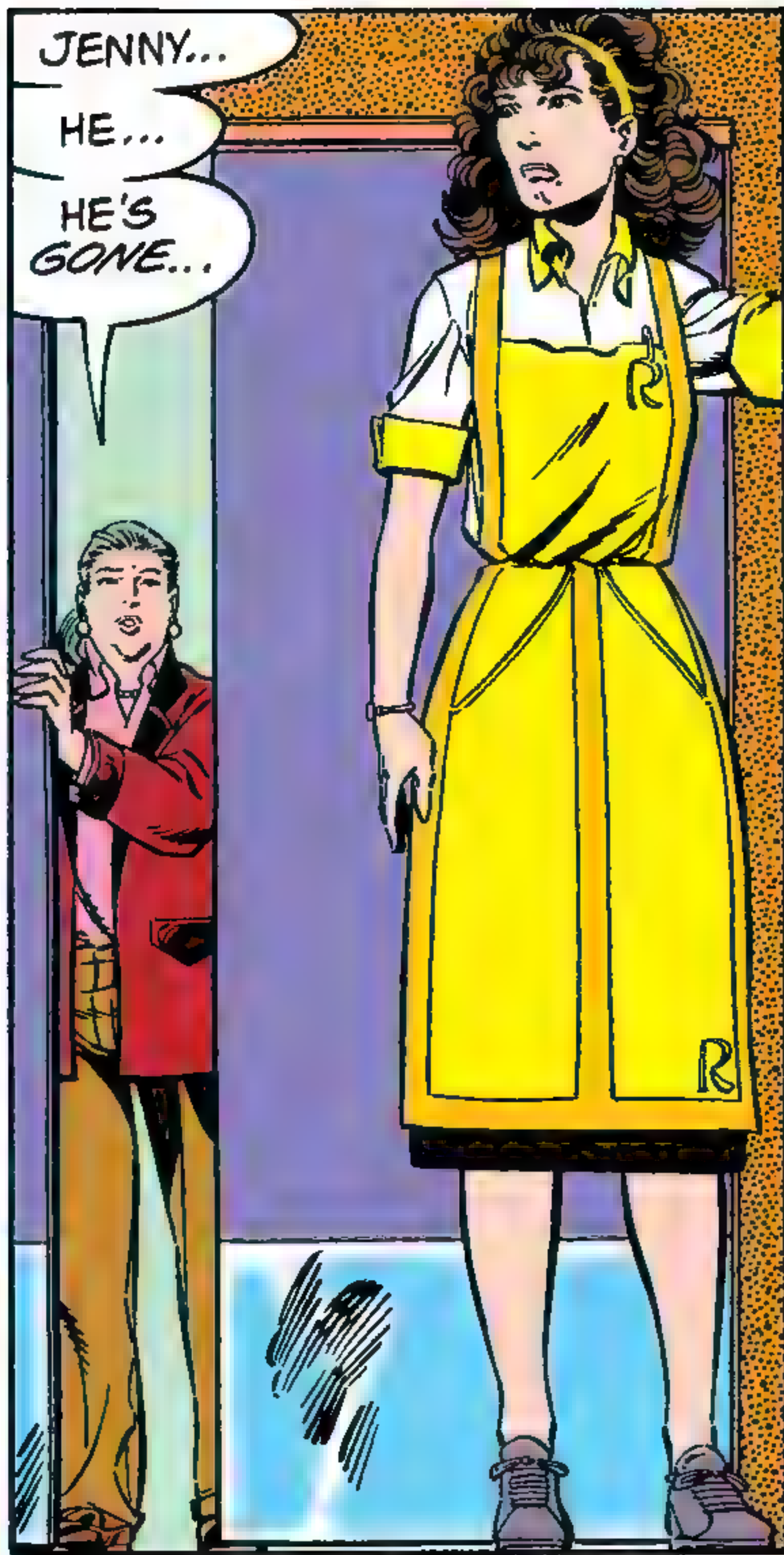
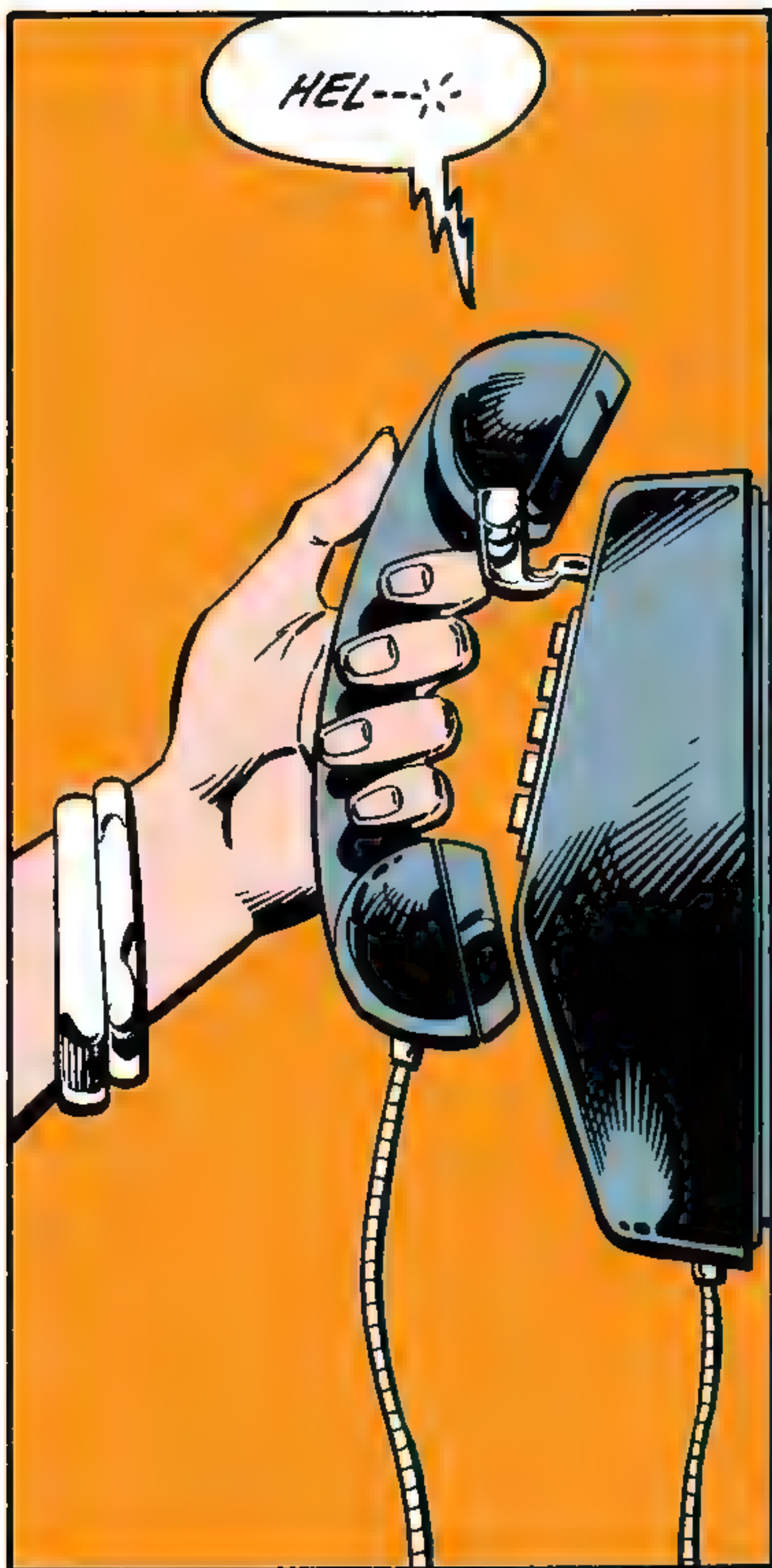
I'M GOING TO WAIT IN MY CAR.

FOR EXACTLY TEN MINUTES, JENNY.

THINK.







Superman Post-Crisis Chronology
Volume 014 The Pocket Universe

"Rampage", first appeared in Superman issue #7, released May, 1987
John Byrne (writer), John Byrne (penciller), Karl Kesel (inker)

"Future Shock", first appeared in Superman issue #8, released June, 1987
John Byrne (writer), John Byrne (penciller), Karl Kesel (inker)

"Past Imperfect", first appeared in Action Comics issue #591, released June, 1987
John Byrne (writer), John Byrne (penciller), John Byrne (penciller), John Byrne (inker), John Byrne (inker), Keith Williams (inker)

Excerpt from "Homeward Bound!", first appeared in The Adventures of Superman issue #430, released May, 1987
Marv Wolfman (writer), Jerry Ordway (penciller), Jerry Ordway (inker)

"They Call Him -- Dr. Stratos", first appeared in The Adventures of Superman issue #, released June, 1987
Marv Wolfman (writer), Erik Larsen (penciller), Jerry Ordway (penciller), Bill Wray (inker), Bob Lewis (inker), Bob Smith (inker), Dick Giordano (inker), Jerry Ordway (inker), Karl Kesel (inker), P. Craig Russell (inker)

"To Laugh and Die In Metropolis", first appeared in Superman issue #9, released July, 1987
John Byrne (writer), John Byrne (penciller), Karl Kesel (inker)



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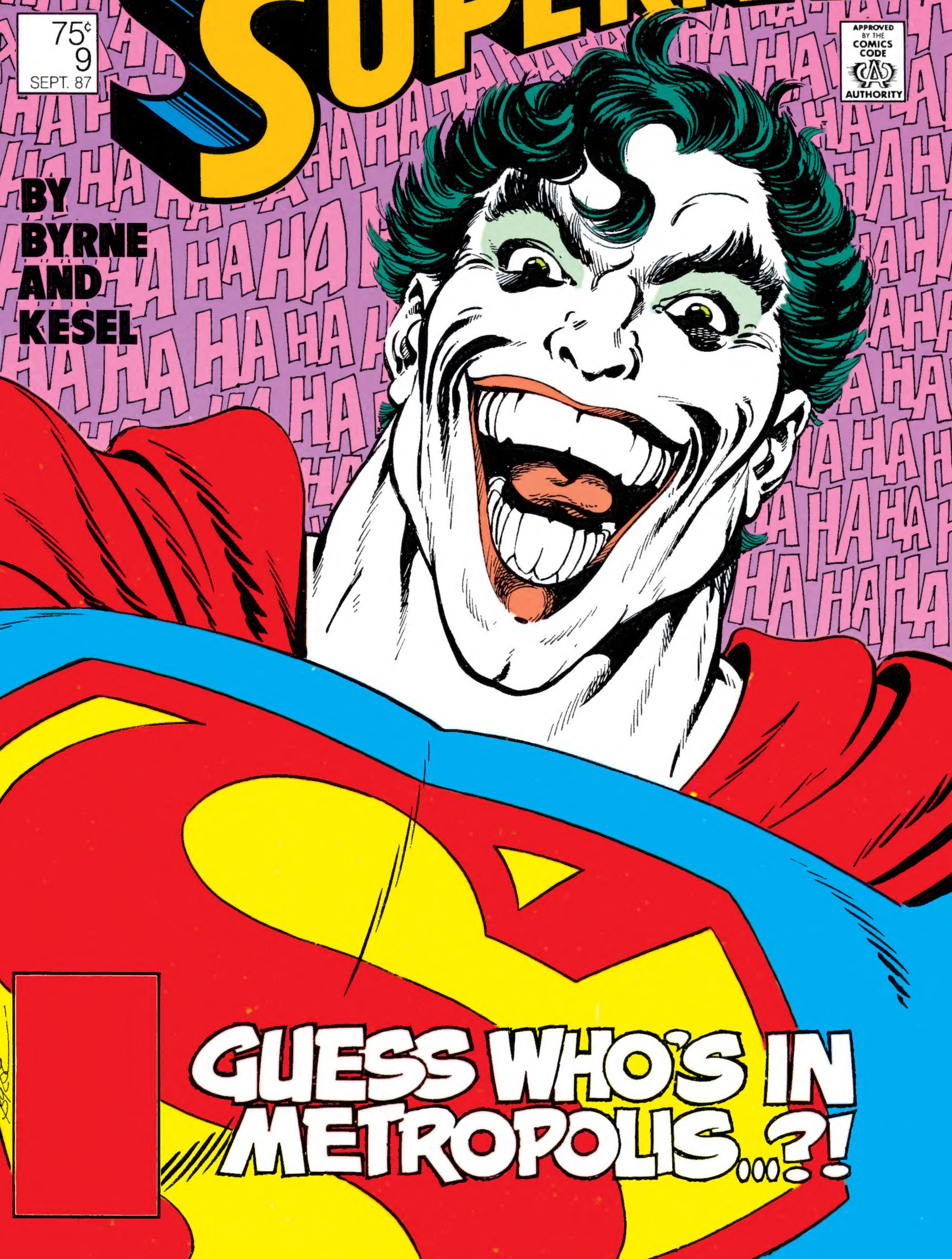


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